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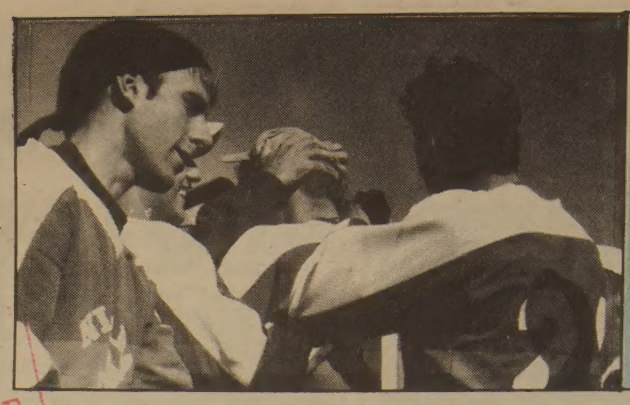

Look-out Sarnia here come the Knights, Page 16

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NIAGARA NEWS

VOLUME 27, NO. 2 —FREE— OCT. 11, 1996

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Dozers ready

By JHIM BURWELL
Staff Writer

Construction has started on the new campus of Niagara College in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Niagara College President Dan Patterson said bulldozers are doing on-site preparation.

The Capital Campaign to raise the rest of the money for construction costs, will be launched at the site Oct. 22 during "an event to bring in the key stakeholders and get the campaign geared up," said Patterson, adding the administration is busy analyzing the programs, schedules and anticipated enrolment for the new campus when it opens in September 1998.

Patterson said there is a need to "show momentum of it happening."

The goal of the Capital Campaign is to raise the last $6 million needed to make the new campus a reality since the provincial government confirmed its pledge of $27 milllion at the end of the summer.

'Some of that money is contingent on ground breaking'

About $3.2 million has been promised by private and corporate donors.

"Some of that money is contingent on groundbreaking" at the new campus site, said Patterson, adding the campaign is "in the process of re-affirming pledges."

The uncertainty of provincial support between the Conservative victory in June 1995 and the August confirmation of the originally-NDP support made capital investors cynical, said the president.

Colors of Niagara

Niagara College falls into season.

Photo by Jennifer Elliott

Food Fest '96

By SAMANTHA GOLDWIN
Staff Writer

The Niagara Food Festival '96 was a success, and two of Niagara College's programs were there to help out.

"I really like being here this weekend, it's an experience to get out and have the people taste our cooking," said Bryan McQuillan, 19, an eight-month culinary art student.

With weather working in favor for the festival on Oct. 5 and 6, tasters came out from all over the Niagara Region.

"It's not often you get to taste all these foods that fine restaurants make in one place at one time," said Jon Smelle, 29, of Niagara Falls, Ont.

Smelle was at the Niagara College Maid of the Mist for Tourism and Hospitality booth eating one of the sample meals prepared by the college's culinary arts students.

"It's our mushroom ragout served in a pumpernickel basket," said Angeie McArthur, 30, from the culinary arts program.

(Continued on Page 3)

Exciting new developments

By JHIM BURWELL
Staff Writer

The president of Niagara College says he is excited about three developments in college education.

Two are government related, while the other is a specific enhancement of the educational environment at the college.

The Co-operative Education Tax Credit and the Ontario Student Opportunity Trust Fund are initiatives designed by the Ontario government to encourage people to go into post-secondary education.

More directly related to Niagara College, Patterson said he is excited about the new open access computer lab on the ground floor of the Simcoe building.

The Ontario Conservatives decided they will "reimburse businesses 10 per cent of eligible costs up to $1,000 for each qualifying co-operative education placement hired after Aug. 31," says a recent Ontario ministry of finance press release.

President Dan Patterson said this move will "hopefully get more business people to hire co-op students."

Niagara College already has "one of the highest rates of co-op placement in the province," said Patterson, adding he is hopeful the $1,000 incentive will get businesses to hire more college students than planned.

(Continued on Page 3)

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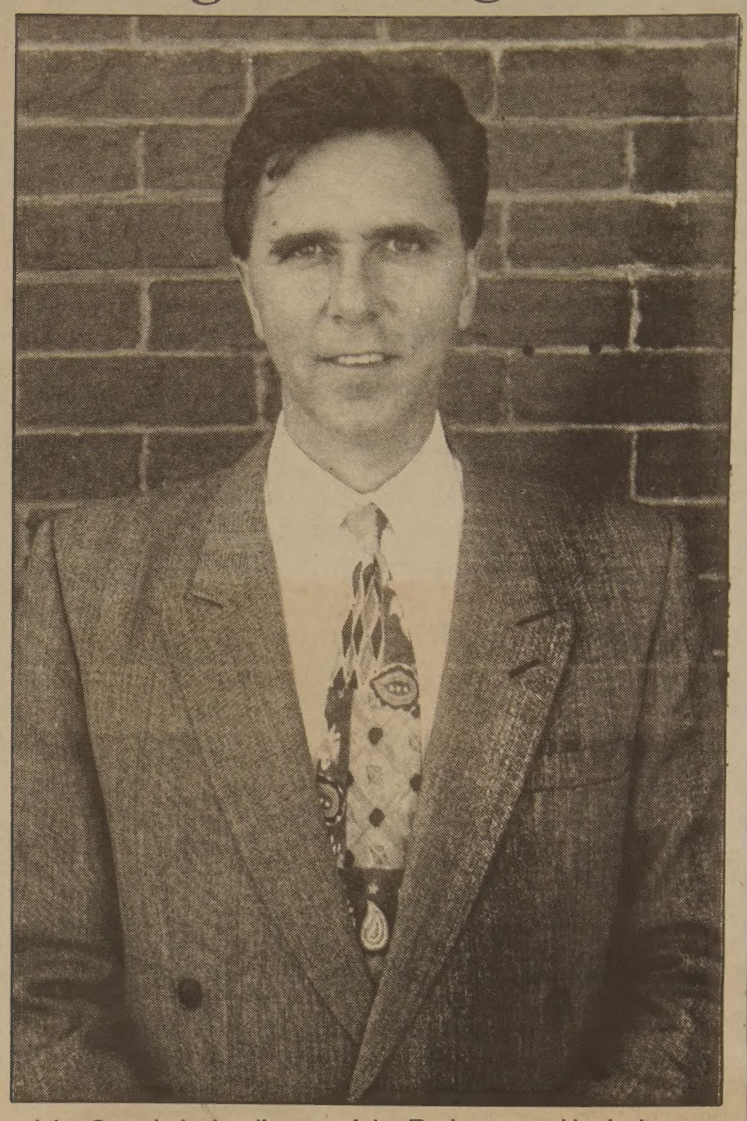
Environmental awareness at Niagara College



John Ogryzlo is the director of the Environment, Horticulture and Agribusiness Division in St. Catharines.
Photo by Jhim Burwell

By CHRISTINE TURMAINE
Staff Writer

There wasn't a course at Niagara College on environmental programs before 1991.

Now, there's an entire Centre for Environmental Training in St. Catharines.

With help from Jon Ogryzlo, 1991 marked the beginning of environmental awareness programs at the college.

The college's intention was to establish a centre that could look at environmental training for business and industry, and for students who wanted to pursue a career in that field.

The result is the Centre for Environmental Training at 59 Wellandvale Rd.

Under the direction of Ogryzlo, the college's director of the Environment, Horticulture and Agribusiness division, the centre's enrolment has climbed from 28 students in 1993 to more than 210 students.

The centre has created a number of programs over the last five years, including seminars for business and industry on waste management, the Green Enterprise Development program and adult-training programs.

The centre has started five new programs in the environmental field.

The Environmental Management program "provides very practical, focused skills for graduates," says Ogryzlo.

"We make sure students have very good communication skills and know how to deal with the media."

This program is one of a few post-diploma programs at the centre. Another one-year program, Ecosystem Restoration, teaches students how to restore damaged areas back to their natural state. Areas such as 12 Mile Creek, which has been polluted and where vegetation needs to be re-introduced into the earth.

The centre is offering another course beginning in 1997, called Environmental Assessment.

'The great thing about working in the field is that you feel you're making a differnce.'

The centre also deals with a number projects. "We hopefully have dibs on a project in Argentina and Cuba on eco-tourism," says Ogryzlo. "I'm currently working on a project in India to help set up polytechnic and environmental courses there."

Ogryzlo says the centre has been working on a major international project with Brock University in St. Cathairnes over the last three years. "We send people to Thailand to help them set up a similar centre to what we have here.

"We're always trying to show people that it's in their economic interest to pay attention to how they're impacting on the environment."

Ogryzlo says he is "very" proud of his graduates because no matter what job they have, they'll always have an environmental awareness and they can bring that into their work and into their life.

"The great thing about working in the field is that you feel you're making a difference," he says.

Winery opens door to students

By COLIN HUNEAULT
Staff Writer

Chateau des Charmes winery recently opened its doors to Niagara College students.

The Bosc family invited the International Trade Program students on a tour of their winery in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

The winery opened in 1978 on 60 acres of land and, according to Wine Access magazine, remains the only winery in family hands in the Niagara peninsula.

First, the students watched a short historical film on Chateau des Charmes and then toured the estate. Specific attention was placed on the operation of the chateau.

The students also attended a seminar on exporting and entrepreneurship.

Speaker Paul Bosc Jr. instructed students on the importance of good partnership.

"The people you choose to represent your business will determine your success," Bosc said. "Get to know your partner."

Bosc spoke on "collaborative clustering for prosperity," a method in which business competitors work together.

In Niagara, the wineries pool some of their resources for financial and logistical purposes.

Bosc told students "luck is where hard work meets opportunities."

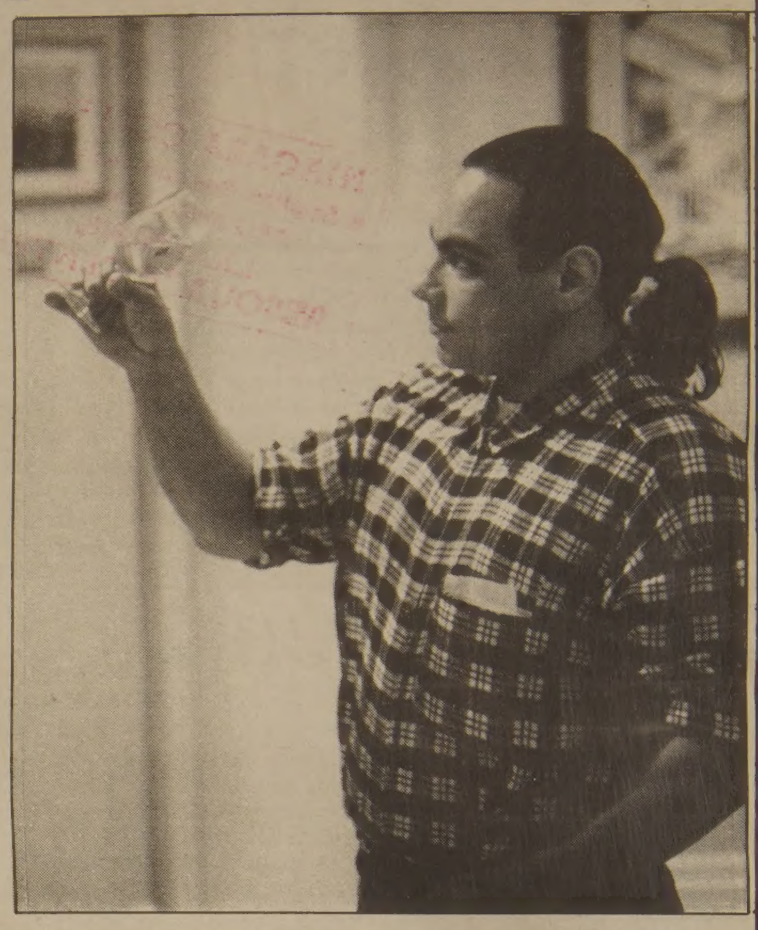
The seminar ended with a question period, and the evening closed in the reception room where students sampled various wines and treats.

Student Tony Cirasuolo, of Niagara Falls, said he enjoyed his evening at Chateau des Charmes.

"It was real interesting and informative. I learned a great deal."

Cirasuolo said he favored the taste of Chardonnay over the other wines.

"The family (Bosc) is community oriented and a strong supporter of this program," said Malcolm Howe, co-ordinator of the International Trade Program.



Niagara College student Tony Cirasulo samples wine at Chateau du Charmes in Niagara-on-the-Lake.
Photo by Colin Huneault

'The people you choose to represent your business will determine your success.'

The program is for students who wish to strengthen their business skills, he said.

"Special emphasis is placed on NAFTA (North American Free Trade Agreement) and we offer Spanish to all of our students."

Exports influence all businesses, says Howe.

"Whether you go beyond the border or not, you are competing with the export market."

Howe says the program has students from various backgrounds and as far away as Somalia.

Howe and the students were busy preparing for the Niagara Food Festival on Merritt Island in Welland.

The Niagara College program is in its fifth year and is open to college and university graduates.

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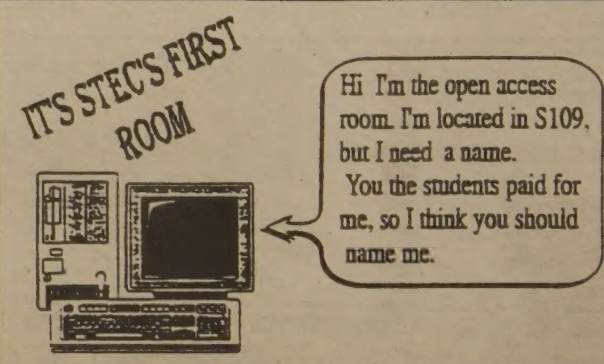
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CONTINUITY

Three steps toward better education

(Continued from Front Page)

The ministry of finance said that the eligible employers will claim the tax credit on their Ontario income tax returns beginning with the 1996 claim.

A qualifying co-op work placement must be a minimum of 10 weeks in duration and a requirement for graduation.

The exception being a work term that lasts longer than four months — each four month period is considered a separate qualifying co-op work placement and can be claimed separately on the tax return.

Ontario Finance Minister Ernie Eves said the tax credit will be available to unincorporated businesses for the 1996 taxation year.

President Patterson said he has been "busy telling prospective employers about the provincial government's tax credit plan in the hope it will encourage more placements within the community for Niagara College students."

Another plan the Ontario government has for encouraging higher education is the Ontario Student Opportunity Trust Fund.

The Mike Harris government has pledged to match, dollar for dollar, any money put into post-secondary bursuries "to assist academically qualified individuals who for financial reasons would not otherwise be able to attend college or university," said a memorandum dated July 30, and sent from the Association of Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology of Ontario.

Each college must establish a trust fund, according to Ministry of Education and Training guidelines, into which money can be donated and matched by the Ontario government.

"A student's eligibility for student aid . . . will depend on his/her financial need as determined by institutional policies on financial need," said the association memorandum.

Patterson said there will be a campaign launched "to alummni and corporations to set up a trust fund."

The goal is to make it easier for students to get a bursary, he said.

The ministry outline said the main restriction to students will be that they will have to "have resided in Ontario for 12 months prior to" the start of the school year.

The open access computer lab at the Welland campus has fewer restrictions and guidelines than the tax credit or trust fund, but it too is aimed at improving educational opportunities.

The lab is sponsored by college students and the college's technology enhancement fund.

Patterson said he is especially excited about this development in the educational environment of the college because it will "make it easier to get time on a computer" for anyone who needs it.

Niagara at the Food Fest

(Continued from Front Page)

The culinary students shifted throughout the day allowing all student volunteers to get a chance to cook.

"It's a great time. Definitely everyone really likes the chicken with peanut sauce and rice," said Sue Berketo, 33, an eight-month culinary art student.

Also served were cakes and Niagara fruit punch.

Culinary art students from the Niagara Falls campus take part in the Niagara Food Festival held at Merritt Island in Welland. The chefs for Saturday afternoon seen in the picture are from left to right, Bryan Mcqillan, Angeie McArthur, Sue Berketo, Andrew MacLeod and James Williams.
Photo by Tanya Bryan

While chefs were cooking, the Ambulance and Emergency Care volunteers from the college were helping food festival organizers keep a watch over the crowd in case anyone needed medical attention.

"No major things happened, just some minor cuts and bruises bandaged up," said Rick Chandler, co-ordinator of the Ambulance and Emergency Care program.

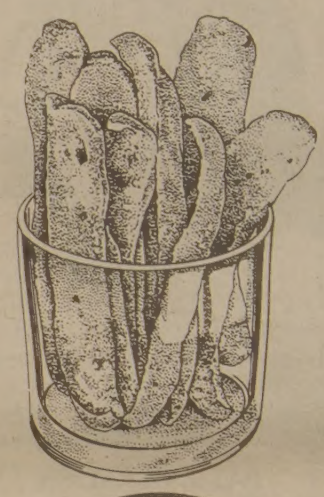
There were about 45 ambulance and emergency care volunteers working shifts throughout the weekend.

Chandler said all student volunteers had a good time and the food was wonderful.

It's a great time.
- Sue Berketo

"It's a valuable experience for the students to get out in the community and volunteer. I am very pleased that things went smoothly this weekend," said Chandler.

Both programs are looking forward to next year's festivities.



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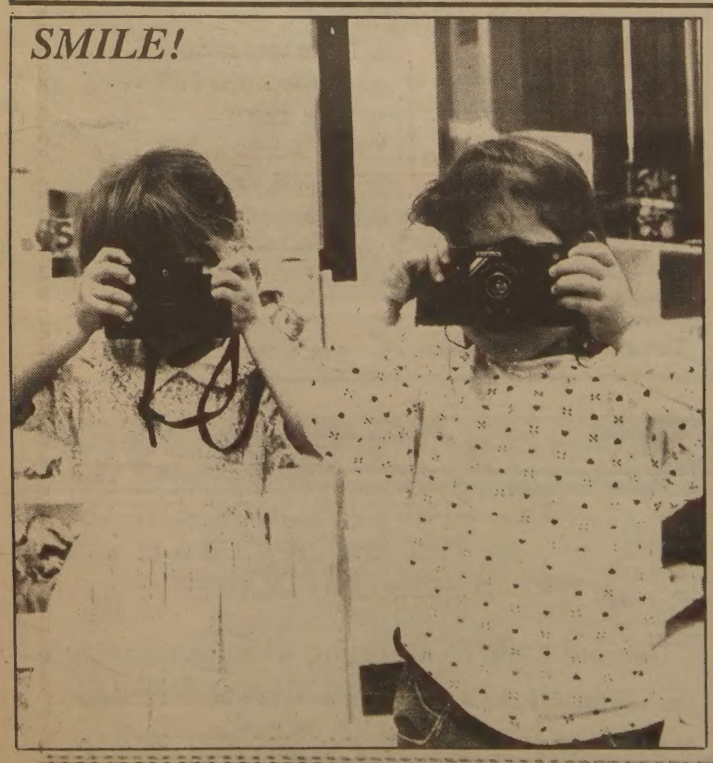

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CAMPUS BUZZ

Never a dull moment for ECE manager

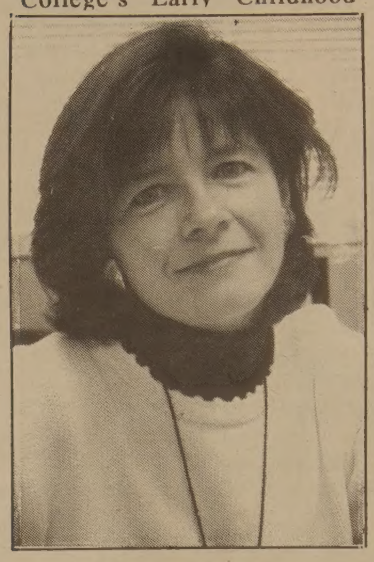
By RYAN BARBER
Staff Writer

Busy, busy, busy.

Pat Eversden, manager of Niagara College's Childcare Centre, is always on the go.

"It's always busy, but I know it can get stressful," she said. "If we take care of ourselves and have a positive outlook, we can pretty well tackle anything."

Eversden, a graduate of Niagara College's Early Childhood



PAT EVERSDEN

Education (ECE) program in 1975, is involved with every aspect of the centre. Some of her duties include overseeing the centre's daily operations and budget, as well as developing facility policies and procedures.

"Overall, I am responsible for the children's routines running smoothly," she said.

In addition, Eversden acts as field placement co-ordinator for ECE students, and has implemented monthly group meetings for the parents of enrolled children. The group provides an opportunity for parents and teachers to discuss the children's needs.

"Every day (at the centre) is different," said the Fort Erie resident. "It's more than a working day."

Eversden has been involved in early childhood education for two decades. As a student of ECE, she volunteered at the Association for Community Living in Fort Erie on weekends and evenings. In 1976, Eversden was hired by the Niagara Region at the Fort Erie child-care centre.

By 1978, she became supervisor of the facility. Eversden worked for the region for 13 years and in May 1990, she began her position with Niagara College.

In the fall of 1995, the college built a new day-care facility, which for Everdsen was "a dream come true. Being in the new facility, we were so fortunate. It's new, it's fresh and it's inviting."

Apart from her duties at the centre, Eversden also lends time to the local branch of the Association of Early Childhood Educators of Ontario as the corresponding secretary.

"It's an organization composed of people involved with the education and care of young children, and it's across Ontario."

A certified aerobics instructor, she manages to find time to teach classes part time at Fulton Family Fitness Centre and Tanning Salon in Fort Erie.

"In teaching aerobics at the gym, I see a lot of names on the register and believe it or not, a lot of the people I have in my fitness class, I had in day care in Fort Erie when they were (around) three," laughed Eversden.

With such a busy life both inside and outside of her job, Eversden knows time management is the key to her success. "Actually, I would say that's one of my assets. I am organized, and I try hard to be. You have to be!"

The children are having fun at the college day-care centre. Photo by Ryan Barber

In-touch president

By JHIM BURWELL
Staff Writer

Niagara College President Dan Patterson says he wants to keep in touch with students' needs and feelings about the college.

The college president said "it is unfortunate" he is not getting out to talk with the students as much as he'd like.

Plans are in the works to change that, he said.

An important part of opening an active dialogue is arranging a venue for discussion between the students, staff and administration.

Patterson said he is arranging for the Student Administrative Council (SAC) to come to board meetings and experience the college decision-making process.

Alternately, he might like to attend some SAC meetings to become more aware of what they are doing, he said, adding SAC autonomy is important to the college's administration.

This may lead to better understanding and interaction between the two bodies, he said, adding he would like to "revive the college council or another alternate mechanism."

It will be an established venue for the discussion of college policy and practices with regular open meetings.

Patterson said it would be a "time and place for people to have their say and know they've been heard.

"It is important for the president to get ongoing advice on what people like and what they don't."

Anybody — students, faculty, administration and support staff — will have a chance to be heard, he said.

As soon as arrangements are made, letters of notification and invitation will be going out.

Traditional gems

By JASON YOUNG
Staff Writer

If one looked hard enough, one would have found a room full of jewels in the Simcoe Building on Oct. 1.

The Aboriginal Students' Council sponsored a traditional native jewelry-making workshop for students at Niagara College.

The workshop was held in Room S102B in the Aboriginal Education Access Office. Students were welcome to learn the art of making traditional native Indian jewelry, such as bracelets, single-strand necklaces and three-strand choker-style necklaces.

The cost of the workshop varied from $5 to $20 depending on the type of piece desired by the students.

During the workshop, it was announced a second workshop will be held later in October.

The Aboriginal Students' Council welcomes everyone to attend the next workshop. Further details will be posted throughout the college.

Electronic magazines

By DEBRA BRIGHT
Staff Writer

Is that term paper or essay due?

A computer program called Academic Abstracts is one of the research tools available to students in the reference area of the Welland campus library.

It offers key word access to abstracts of articles from many leading journals and periodicals. Each article has been specially selected for its academic value, such as Twentieth Century Literature, Counselling Psychology or the New York Times.

First-time users can be taken through a tutorial to learn such things as the program basics, how to search a title or how to download information onto a computer disk.

Other features of Academic Abstracts include concise summaries of articles, complete text of selected journals, Magill book reviews, and articles focusing on current events with 100 per cent coverage of news weeklies.

Each source provides the user with the magazine name, publication date, volume number, issue number, starting page number, number of pages and the number of color and black and white pictures.

To search for information, the user can select all the databases or specific timelines. Each year 220,000 abstracts are added to the seven-year database.

Where you enter words on the search screen affect how they will be searched.

Searches can be kept simple or narrowed down.

Using the word computer, a single word search will look for all citations in the database that contain the word computer.

Topics can be narrowed down by adding additional words or phrases.

Information can then be downloaded onto a disk or printed.

An attendant at the reference desk is always available if additional help is needed.

The Welland campus library has four computer stations.

The Student Technology Enhancement Fund has approved funding for several more stations to be installed when the equipment arrives.

Students from other campuses are encouraged to take advantage of the evening hours offered at the Welland campus.

The library is open until 8:15 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

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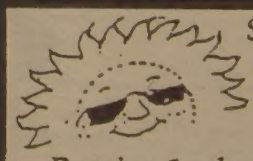

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CORPORATE BUZZ

Interim CEO appointed to college foundation

Don Johnston to head college foundation

By GORD WITTENBERG
Staff Writer

A former vice-president of Hayes-Dana Inc. in St. Catharines is the new interim vice-chair and chief executive officer of the Niagara College Foundation, the college's money-raising arm.

"I have a commitment to the college until March 31, 1997," says Don Johnston. "During this period, I will also assist the search committee to find a permanent CEO of the foundation."

The foundation is responsible for maintaining a permanent private sector fund-raising presence on behalf of Niagara College in Niagara Region and beyond.

"The CEO is responsible for the soliciting of new bursaries and scholarships and canvassing for special donors to the Ontario Student Opportunity Trust Fund," said Johnston.

The foundation plans to re-start the Capital Campaign program as a means to raise an additional $3 million for the new campus in Niagara-on-the-Lake. This campaign will include canvassing major corporations, service clubs, smaller businesses and the college's alumni.

'This is my most difficult challenge,' says Johnston

"This is my most difficult challenge," said Johnston. "I firmly believe that a major reason for the government's decision to support 100 per cent of our $32 million capital grant request was the outstanding public support exhibited through the pledges of $3 million during the short time to June 1995."

Johnston retired in 1994 as vice-president from Hayes-Dana Inc., and since 1995 has been associated with DONRO Financial Corporation in St. Catharines. He is also involved in numerous service clubs and organizations in the Niagara Region.

Alumni scholarship

By GORD WITTENBERG
Staff Writer

Niagara College Alumni Association has established a first-time Entrance Scholarship Fund.

Alumni Association co-ordinator Martha Gleddie said there will be seven scholarships available for students arriving directly from secondary school and three for mature students.

The scholarships have been developed to reflect the diversity of the first-year student population, she added.

"The amount will vary from year to year, but this year it will be valued at a minimum of $100."

Applications for scholarships were mailed in August to all incoming students.

Association members and volunteers have been raising funds for scholarships by operating monthly bingo games one Saturday a month at the Skyway Bingo Hall, 150 Bunting Rd., St. Catharines.

"By running bingos your alumni association provides various financial support to students," said Louis Silverstri, Alumni Association co-ordinator.

The association will also be contacting former graduates to update alumni lists and to ask for donations during a fall phonathon set to begin Oct. 15 and end Nov. 15. Association members will be working with students from the Call Management program.

" We look forward to speaking to all of our grads and remind them that no pledge is too great or small, and tax receipts will be sent out for all donations," said Gleddie.

As an additional service, the Alumni Association will offer frames for displaying your diploma or graduation photo. These may be purchased at the Welland campus.

The Alumni Association would like to remind students "that volunteers are always needed and your support is always welcome." For more information, contact Martha Gleddie at (905) 988-5211.

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$3.2 million raised

Funds raised through Niagara: The Next Century capital campaign

By GORD WITTENBERG
Staff Writer

The Niagara College Foundation was formed in January 1989.

The Niagara College Board of Governors decided the college could benefit from more direct community involvement and support by the business community and the people of the Niagara Region.

By securing the community's commitment to the college, it would be a win/win situation for both.

Niagara College would be providing specific programs which would benefit the people who live and work in the region.

One of the foundation's major projects was to raise funds to help build the college's state of the art Hospitality and Tourism Centre, now called the Maid of the Mist Centre in Niagara Falls.

In February 1992, Larry Naftulin was hired as vice-chair and chief officer of the foundation.

His first priority was to meet with the college's Board of Governors to identify the causes and programs which needed financial support.

The foundation established an alumni association to provide services and social activities for college graduates.

Naftulin visited community leaders to let them know the foundation was in the business of raising much-needed funds on a full-time basis.

From February 1992 to April 1994, Naftulin promoted Niagara College to as many groups as possible in the Niagara Region. He joined the Rotary Club, Gyro Club, the Chamber of Commerce and served on various boards.

The foundation then "became visible in the community," said Naftulin.

Not only did he reach the people who gave financial donations to the college, but he spoke to various non-profit groups, such as the Red Cross and the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority to assist them in raising funds for their own organizations.

In April 1994, Ontario Premier Bob Rae announced the awarding of a provincial funding grant for the new Niagara College campus in Niagara-on-the Lake.

DAN PATTERSON

The "hard work" by the foundation was to begin, said the former college president John Saso in an interivew with the Niagara News in 1994.

The foundation's goal was to raise $6 million through **Niagara: The Next Century** capital campaign.

The estimated cost of the new building and renovation project was about $47.3 million. Of this, $33.4 million was for building the Niagara-On-The-Lake campus, and $10.3 million was for construction and renovations at the Welland campus.

Although $32 million will come from the provincial grant, $6 million will be from fund-raising events and $5.7 million from the college's ancillary operations — lease savings, sale of the St. Catharines campus and other internal sources.

Within one year, Niagara College reached $3.2 million of its goal.

In June 1995, the Progressive formed a new government and decisions concerning the new campus were put on hold.

Not knowing how long it was going to take before a decision on the new campus would be made, the foundation CEO and the college president made a concerted effort to meet with most capital-campaign donors.

Community support crucial to fund-raising

Donors assured the two of their continued support and that they were in "for the long-haul," said Dan Patterson, Niagara College president.

The foundation made its case on how important the college is to the people in the community.

The foundation's other responsibilities include organizing special events such as an annual golf tournament with prizes donated by local businesses, and the annual seafood extravaganza at the Maid of the Mist Centre in Niagara Falls, which sells out almost immediately. This year $3,500 in raffle tickets were sold. First prize is one week in Florida. The trip and the wine served at the dinner were donated.

The members of the Niagara foundation say they like to think of themselves as "ambassadors" of Niagara College.

Education fairs help students come to Canada

ESL program keeps the reasonable number of students

By HYOJEONG KIM
Staff Writer

A Niagara College international student advisor has recently returned from a 10-day visit to Korea.

The trip was made by 23-year-old Sean Coote.

Jos Nolle, 40, manager of International Education department, said Coote visited Korea because the college experienced a drop in the number of Korean students for the May-Start term.

"We are expecting to maintain the percentage of Korean students as other students increase," said Coote.

He said the department has targeted Korea and Japan at about 25 to 30 per cent of the number of students in the English as a Second Language (ESL) and post-secondary programs.

"That brings about three or four students from Korea or Japan in every ESL class. That's reasonable," he said.

"Whenever you exceed that with any culture, students do not like it and they leave and all your marketing goes down," said Coote.

He said in June 1996, they had a group of Korean students who came to the St. Catharines campus and there are only six students left out of 32 students.

"Studying in Canada is fairly new in Korea. Large numbers have only started coming here for last two or three years," said Coote.

Nolle said that was "a good moment" to be in Korea for the education fairs because it was to promote opportunities to come to Canada, so it was directed at attracting Korean students and parents who already had an interest in studying in Canada.

The education fairs are co-ordinated by the Canadian Education Centre.

'We are expecting to maintain the percentage of Korean students as other students increase,' said Coote.

Coote said they've done a lot of fairs in Japan, Mexico and Brazil. This is the second fair in Korea organized by the Canadian Education Centre.

Coote arrived in Korea on Sept. 18 and attended the education fair in Seoul on Sept. 21 and 22. He left for Taegu on Sept. 23 and attended another fair there the next day.

He said there were about 125 schools from across Canada at the education fair — universities, colleges, and language schools, who organized booths to represent their schools. The fair was aimed at providing information to Korean students interested in studying abroad or in Canada.

"They had expected about 2,000 to 3,000 students per day, but from the time it opened on Saturday, there were over 1,000 people in the room at any given time," said Coote.

He said there were a lot of schools which really didn't have a focus of what they were doing. But he said his focus was on hospitality and tourism programs in Niagara Falls, the environmental programs in St. Catharines and other selected programs.

On Monday, Oct. 7, Susan Vandenboom, co-ordinator of the ESL program, left for Japan to attend education fairs in Tokyo and Osaka until Oct. 17.

"It (the education fair) is twice per year and I don't think it is worthwhile to be there every time, but at least once a year we want to be there at one of the fairs," said Nolle.

International Education Department

Overview of English as a Second Language (ESL) and post-secondary (PS) students as of Sept. 17.

Expected number of ESL students in September 1996 ------- 38.
Expected number of PS students in September 1996 ------- 44.

Nationalities:	ESL	PS
Japan	10	16
Korea	13	14
Taiwan	3	7
Hong Kong	0	3
Indonesia	1	0
Thailand	3	1
Mexico	1	0
Colombia	1	0
Venezuela	0	1
Macedonia	1	0
Cyprus	1	0
Poland	1	0
Yemen	1	1
Saudi Arbia	2	0
Lebanon	0	1
Totals	38	44

PS students in the Hotel and Restaurant Administration program (5) and Tourism program (10), Business Administration program (6), Office Administration program (6), General Arts and Science program (4), Early Childhood Education program (2), Visual and Creative Arts-Design program (2), Journalism-Print program (2), Broadcasting-Radio, Television and Film program (1), Computer Electrican Technician program (2), Computer Programmer program (1), Environmental program (2), and Construction Engineering program (1).

Candlelight for China's prisoners

By KATHERINE NADEAU
Staff Writer

The regional branch of Amnesty International held a candlelight vigil for China's prisoners of conscience to mark the end of an international campaign on human rights violations.

Tags bearing the name, crime, and sentence of prisoners were enclosed in plastic and tied to the branches of a tree in the courtyard at Brock University in St. Catharines on Sept. 27. The vigil was held to correspond with the Chinese Moon festival.

"Lantern Day (part of the festival) is traditionally a time for families to be together," says Rick Rempel, an Amnesty International vice-president.

Many aren't together because "politically incorrect behavior" has resulted in imprisonment, he says.

The Chinese system of detention allows the authorities to imprison anyone for months or years without being charged with a crime.

"Some of these people are so young and have been imprisoned for years for religious beliefs or supporting human rights actions," says Kelly Grant, an Amnesty International member, adding the sentences are often imposed without a legal trial or representation.

Part of the Amnesty International mandate is to secure the immediate release of prisoners of conscience, to ensure fair and prompt trials, and to abolish torture and executions.

Amnesty International started in 1961 with a newspaper article by British lawyer Peter Benenson. He urged people to begin to work impartially for the release of prisoners of conscience.

Amnesty International has more than one million members and supporters worldwide in various branches.

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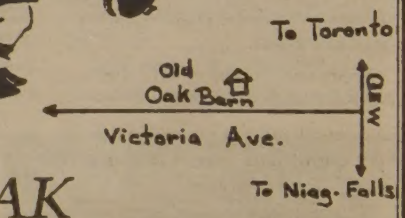
and Thurs. Oct. 24**



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Council on World Affairs conference

By JAMES M. COOTE
Staff Writer

The Council on World Affairs is holding its eighth annual conference on global awareness in November.

Beginning Nov. 15, 500 students from high schools across the Niagara Region will participate in the Model United Nations conference.

Each student will represent a United Nations delegate. The students are responsible for knowing all there is to know about a given country's foreign policies and internal structure. With that knowledge, they are to make decisions accordingly.

"If we wrote the state department of some country, you expect the same response from the student delegate," said Aaron Hardwick, secretary-general of student conference.

As part of the project, there will be an emergency event and word of it is leaked to the press, provided by an in-house newspaper.

"We use the newspaper to plant the seeds of emergency scenarios," said Mike Keenan, council organizer.

The delegates then must deal with the ensuing turmoil.

The Council on World Affairs is a registered charity which raises funds for scholarships. The scholarships are presented to those students who give the best showing.

'We use the newspaper to plant the seeds of emergency scenarios'

Over the past eight years, the council has contributed more than $30,000 to cover the cost of university tuitions.

The council also operates an environment camp at Brock University in St. Catharines, designed to instil an environmental ethic in students, said Keenan.

Council newsletters, which highlight global issues, are published four times a year and distributed to libraries and schools across the region.

Food day will be good day

By AMANDA MANSFIELD
Staff Writer

Showing solidarity with hungry neighbors will be the topic at the United Nations World Food Day being held at Brock University in St. Catharines on Oct. 16.

United Nations World Food Day was established in 1979 by the 147 nations represented at the annual conference of the UN Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO).

The FAO's aim is to increase public awareness of world food problems and to further develop national and international solidarity in the struggle against hunger, malnutrition and poverty.

Gerald Vandezande, the national public affairs director of Citizen for Public Justice (CPJ) will be the keynote speaker at the event at 7:30 p.m.

CPJ is a member-supported national non-profit organization which promotes justice in Canadian public affairs.

Vandezande will speak on hunger and poverty from a global and local perspective.

United Nations

Following Vandezande, there will be a three-member panel of community workers.

Betty Lou Souter, chief excutive officer of Community Care, will speak on the group's work in the St. Catharines and Thorold communities.

Carrie Macfie, the Good Food Box organizer of Niagara Peninsula Homes Community Resources, will highlight the Good Food Box program and how people can participate.

Joe Mancini, the director of the Working Centre in Kitchener-Waterloo, will speak on the Local Employment and Trading System, which allows people in communities to barter and trade work and goods with one another.

The event is jointly sponsored by Campus Ministries Brock University, the Ontario Public Interest Research Group-Brock (OPIRG-Brock), together with Worldwise International Awareness Centre.

For further information, contact Leny Holierboek, Campus Ministries-Brock at 688-5550 extension 3977 or Dianne Bergsma at OPIRG-Brock 688-5550 extension 3499.

March to victory

You may win a trip to Sherkston Shores

By JENNIFER GIBSON
Staff Writer

Take a walk, join the battle.

On Sunday, Oct. 20 both men and women will join a fight that's been going on inside the bodies of women young and old for years.

A walk to raise funds for the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation starts at 10:15 a.m. at Cedar Bay Inn Restaurant, 2691 Vimy Rd., in Port Colborne and will cover 10 kilometres.

To register for the Country Walk, you'll have to be out of bed and in line to register between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. in front of the restaurant.

When you sign up for the walk, you also register to win a trip for two to Sherkston Shores, Ont., for four days and three nights.

The third annual Country Walk is dedicated to the women who have battled or are battling breast cancer.

After the walk, organizers will hold a mini-food fest in appreciation of the participators' support.

Dogs, bicycles and rollerblades are prohibited.

If interested in registering for the walk, making a pledge, or volunteering to help out, please call Teresa or Bonnie at (905) 835-8722.

Scouts honor scouts at 60th anniversary

By ROBERT HALLETT
Staff Writer

Fun and adventure are what the scouts and beavers experience in Port Colborne, says Carole Newman, committee chair for scouting groups in Port Colborne.

There are 12 beaver colonies and 10-scout troops in the Port Colborne area. There are the 1st Wainfleet, 1st Sherkston, 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 12th Port Colborne troops.

Newman has worked as the committee chair for 1 1/2 years. "They work on their crafts and how to appreciate nature and the environment," she said.

The scouting organization is sponsored by the Port Colborne Optimist Club.

Newman said money is tight and the organizations don't get enough money from membership dues from scouts and beavers to rent halls for meetings.

The scouts and beavers celebrated the organization's 60th anniversary on Oct. 6 at Lock 8 Park in Port Colborne. Bake sales, craft sales, face paintings, pie throwing at the mayor, a puppet show, a log-cutting competition, raffles, barbecuing, camp fires, and sing alongs were some of the activities the scouts and beavers did to celebrate.

"I find scouting a worthwhile organization," said Newman. "Once you do it, you don't forget it. It's something in school you'd never do. You don't realize how much fun it is. It's smarts they can deal with."

'Once you do it, you don't forget it'

Newman said the youngsters learn respect for themselves as well as others. "It's personal wise not muscle wise," she said.

An Apple Day fund-raiser will occur from Oct. 18 to Oct. 20. There will also be barbecues, catalog sales, selling of scout calenders and tree planting to raise funds. About 30 per cent of the profits from the tree planting goes to the national scouting organization, while the remaining 70 per cent goes to the troop raising the money.

Hiking, swimming, mixed camping with other groups, canoe trips, conservation tips, and first-aid training are some of the activities the scouts do.

63 per cent of college United Way goal reached

College has raised $11,000 of its proposed $17,500 goal

By HEATHER HUNTER
Staff Writer

The United Way is an agency you may need tomorrow.

Linda Saari, of Niagara Falls, is the chairperson for the South Niagara committee of the United Way at Niagara College.

Saari joined the committee in April. Although she says "it's extremely time consuming" being chairperson for the college committee, she does find time for her "real job" as college manager of the Ontario Skills Development office at the Ventures Centre in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

It's extremely time consuming being a chair person

She says the various committee members from the college's different campuses give "a cross section of different ideas."

Niagara College has set its United Way goal at $17,500.

Saari says 63 per cent (or about $11,000) of the goal "has already been reached."

This year's goal is to focus on increasing college donations and participation by offering various incentives, she adds.

College teachers, support staff and administration personnel can win incentive draws, including a four-day vacation, dinner and bottles of wine.

Teachers, support staff and some students are supporting the United Way with Dress Down Days, where people pay $1 to wear the clothes of their choice on Fridays.

The dental students have been doing "a fabulous job," says Saari, adding students in the Human Relations program are busy working on a class project to organize fund-raisers for the campaign.

"It's exciting to have students involved in campus fund-raisers.

"The United Way is an agency that you or I may need tomorrow," says Saari. "It's not somebody else's problem."

'It's exciting to have the students involved in campus fundraisers'

Last year, the Niagara College community contributed $17,033 to the campaign.

The United Way committee at the college involves 27 people, including Jason Chase, Student Administrative Council president.

Meanwhile, two recent events helped raise nearly $3,000 toward the 1996 South Niagara United Way campaign total goal of $805,000.

A Welland hospital scavenger hunt and auction night raised more than $2,000, while a trivia night held Sept. 21 raised more than $800.

The money goes to support 24-member agencies of the United Way, covering more than 60 various programs.

"Together We Care" is this year's campaign theme.

The campaign concludes Nov. 21

The United Way is a non-profit organization dedicated to serving the community in many health and social services.

EDITORIALS

NIAGARA NEWS

The Niagara News is a practical lab for the **Journalism-Print program, covering the college community and other areas of interest. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the management of the Niagara News or the administration of Niagara College. P.O. Box 1005, 300 Woodlawn Rd., Ontario L3B 5S2. Phone (905) 735-2211/ 688-1380/ 384-9760/ 382-2383/ FAX (905) 735-7669.**

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YOA loopholes

A 13-year-old boy shot.

Teen charged in murder of 15-year-old.

Almost everday you can open a paper and read a headline like this.

It appears that shooting the boy down the street, or visciously beating the person who looked at your current love, is the latest trend among youth.

How this trend developed (or any fad) is, I'm sure, a question we could somehow blame on society.

I can only assume that youth violence has something to do with a lack of employment, resulting in more spare time and hence little or no responsibility at all.

At the risk of sounding philosophical, society is producing too many obstacles for a 13, 18, or even 25-year-old to deal with.

AIDS, drugs, education, money and lack thereof. One even has to decide what career path to choose at 13 in order to have a chance at success.

It's hard enough just growing up.

It is to my understanding that the Young Offenders Act (YOA) is providing an even better excuse to commit a crime.

Why not rob a store and get a slap on the wrist. Very cliche, but very true. How else can you give any reasoning for some of these cases?

The Toronto Star recently ran a story regarding a 19-year-old who received "too harsh" a sentence: One year in jail for a first offender in a burglary case.

So, on the one side we have nine and 10-year-olds who can't even be charged due to the YOA, and the ones that can be charged are given punishments some call too harsh. There is no happy medium.

The fate of our children is lying in the hands of the government and their YOA (or Misspent-Youth Societally-Misunderstood Loophole) that literally lets them get away with murder.

Jennifer Elliott

Alomar's antics

Roberto Alomar kicked up some dust and it hasn't settled yet.

In Toronto, on Sept. 27, Alomar spit in the face of umpire John Hirschbeck, showing his disgust over a called third strike.

In Alomar's world, it seems that when you're out, you're not really out. Receiving an all-too lenient paid, five-day suspension effective next season, Alomar set a precedent. Do what you want, get a slap on the wrist, and then continue playing ball.

By spitting in Hirschbeck's face, Alomar was also spitting in the face of Major League Baseball.

We all remember the controversial players' strike two years ago which brought the ball season to an early close.

The bruises felt by the fans have gradually healed as fans make their way back into the stadiums.

But now we have Mr. Alomar and his temper tantrums to contend with.

With incidents like this occurring virtually unpunished, professional baseball could quickly become a thing of the past. The selection of a baseball commissioner who would regulate player actions and conduct could prevent further incidents like this from happening again. Swift action is the key.

Major League Baseball is rapidly losing its appeal. Many things need to change before it can be the truly loved sport that it once was.

Heather Burton

You never forget

By DEBRALEE VANGHENT
Staff Writer

St. Catharines was hit recently by another tragedy when a young north-end girl was shot in the head by a .45 calibre semi-automatic gun. She was on life support for a couple of days before she died.

Jasmine Vanscoy, 14, was a junior at Holy Cross Secondary School.

Holy Cross had to deal with this awful tragedy on top of the one dealing with the loss of another student four years ago.

When Kristen French was kidnapped and killed by Paul Bernardo, the school was severely affected.

It was very difficult to get over something like that because it happened to someone you knew in your community.

I attended Holy Cross for four years, and I was in my junior year when this tragedy occurred. It was just something you weren't expecting to happen in your community, let alone in your school.

When starting high school, you think of school dances, major parties and doing special community fund-raising events with school friends—not losing one of your schoolmates to something so gruesome.

When Kristen French was kidnapped by Paul Bernardo, the school was severly affected.

I might have bumped into Kristen a few times in the crowded hallways of Holy Cross or else at Merritton Arena for figure skating.

It is something I hope will never happen again in the community or at the school.

But as you can see it did, and I know how Vanscoy's friends must feel over this terrible tragedy.

It's something you never forget. It stays with you.

The spirit of those we've lost at Holy Cross will be remembered through our prayers and our thoughts.

Touching up archives

Graduate puts new face to past mayors

By TANYA BRYAN
Staff Writer

A graduate of Niagara College is giving a new face to past mayors of St. Catharines.

Tracy Laprise, a graduate of the Journalism-Print program last April, has been printing and retouching more than 42 archival photographs of past St. Catharines mayors dating back as far as 1918 to the present.

Laprise printed the photographs as part of her work placement. She said she worked eight hours a day for more than a month.

"A lot of the negatives had to be recopied and some pictures needed to be touched up," said Laprise, 23, of Welland. "Each print took a long time."

'I want to see my hard work pay off,' -Laprise

The negatives were donated by the families of past mayors. To complete the project, paper was supplied by Kodak and chemical and darkroom facilities by the college.

The 11-inch by 14-inch black and white prints will be displayed as a Mayor's Photo Gallery at City Hall in St. Catharines. The official unveiling will take place Oct. 18.

"I want to see my hard work pay off," said Laprise. "I put a lot of work into it. I'm kind of excited to see the pictures framed and put up on the wall."

In case you were wondering. . .

Your voice or opinion is welcome in our Letters to the Editor section. Our policy regarding letter submission is:

1. All letters must be received on the Friday one week prior to publication.

2. Each letter must include the student's name, college identification number and program of study.

3. All letters must be signed and include a day and evening phone number for verification use only.

All letters can be mailed or brought to the Niagara News newsroom, Rm. S212, Simcoe Building, Welland campus.

SPORTS

Men's basketball begins

By RANDY SYER
Staff Writer

There is experience up front on Niagara College's men's basketball team.

Led by fourth-year forward and team captain Derek Flindall, Niagara's team looks to improve on a dismal six win and 10-loss 1995-96 regular season.

"Derek's experience and leadership will definitly be a key to our success this season," said Randy Conlon, third-year head coach.

Flindall, a graduate of Lakeport Secondary School in St. Catharines and former Brock University basketball star, returns for his final year of eligibility.

"Last season Derek averaged double figures in both rebounding and scoring and we will be looking for him to do the same this year."

Other returning players are Mike Harris, a graduate of Westlane Secondary School in Niagara Falls, Jeff Eden, of Brantford North Park, John Wark of Lakeport, and Mike Conradi, of West Park Secondary School in St. Catharines.

Two newcomers to the Knights who have impressed the coach include Dan Carbonara, a graduate of Holy Cross Secondary School in St. Catharines, and Steve Dever, who played at Stamford Collegiate.

"Dan gives us a true point guard, and although he's young, he has the potenial to be a very big part of this team," Conlon said. "And Steve lends experience and maturity to a very young team."

Although, Niagara is experienced with five returnees, the Knights have to compensate with the loss of guards such as league all-star Mike Hurley and Reinhold Klassen.

"We lost more than 30 points per game in those two. That's going to be tough to replace," Conlon said. "Guys like Eden, Dever and Harris are going to have to pick up some of that slack."

Other team members include Peter Mosley from E.L. Crossley Secondary School, Andy Medhurst of Port Colbourne High School, Kevin Beauchamp of Welland Centennial School, Jerry Ferguson of Kirkland Lake Secondary School and Jason Smith of Hagersville Secondary School.

Let's play ball

By JANICE POOLE
Staff Writer

Thirty-four people went to the SkyDome to see the Toronto Blue Jays host the New York Yankees on Sept. 16.

The trip was sponsored by the Student Administrative Council (SAC) during Orientation Week at a cost of $10.

"It was a rockin' time," said Kevin McTienan, 23, a second-year student in the Law and Security Administration (LASA) program. "The price was awesome and there was no one telling us don't do this, don't do that. No one telling us not to have fun,"

SAC President Jason Chase also attended. "It was a great learning experience. Even if one person had a good time, I've done my job."

The bus arrived at the SkyDome at 7:15 p.m. The passengers saw a long list of baseball greats including Darryl Strawberry, Jimmy Key, Joe Carter, Otis Nixon and Tim Raines.

The roof was open, but around the fifth inning it began to rain.

"It was a trip I'll never forget because I got to see the Dome close," said Ron Wolf, 31, a student in the Public Relations post-diploma program.

After the roof closed, the Jumbotron flashed the fact that Paul Molitor had achieved hit number 3,000.

Niagara College was acknowledged in the list of groups attending the game.

"I enjoyed it because I'm a baseball fan, not a Blue Jay fan," said Dan Purdon, 20, a second-year LASA program student.

Although the Blue Jays lost 10-0, spirits were not dampened on the trip home.

"I was proud to break up Jimmy Key's no hitter. The bus driver made it in under three hours. I like that — it's a plus," said Richard Roy, 23, a second-year student in the Computer Programmer program.

"It was an excellent idea," said Rick Cartier, 23, a second-year student in the LASA program. "It should be taken advantage of more often by more people."

Chase said SAC has already approved a November trip to Rich Stadium to see the Buffalo Bills play the Washington Redskins or the New York Jets.

A SAC trip to see a Buffalo Sabres' hockey game is set for Nov. 21.

Legends forever

By RANDY SYER
Staff Writer

Sports may be doomed in the near future.

Oh, where have they gone? Those Saturday afternoon or evening legends.

Gone are the days of Mickey Mantle, Joe Namath, Bill Russell and Bobby Orr.

The legends of sports have disappeared and although, the Cal Ripken Jrs., Mark Messiers and Jerry Rices are in the game, they will soon step down.

As professional sport executives get ready to enter the 21st century, they find themselves losing their respective games.

The last of a dying breed will eventually retire and pass the torch to younger more talented athletes and the game will diminish.

We will no longer see athletes who really love the game. Professional sports will no longer be led by athletes who know the meaning of hard work and desire.

Instead, sports will be led by athletes who strive all their lives to get to a point where they've made it and cruise from there on in.

We will see athletes who are sometimes more talented than most legends, but won't do the hard work to step to the legendary level.

With the game being more of a business than a game and merchandising taking over, younger athletes will make their quick buck and leave.

Hence, a drop in the talent of athletes in sports. Plus, we will never know if a Wayne Gretzky record will ever be broken or the magnitude of the consecutive games record of Cal Ripken's will ever be touched.

So, farewell O'superstars, may your legends live long.

Niagara College
KNIGHTS

1996/97

Good play boys. . .

It was a successful weekend for the Niagara College touch football team at home on Oct. 5. Niagara defeated Lambton College of Sarnia 29-0 to advance to the Ontario Collegiate Athletic Association finals at Lambton College in Sarnia on Oct. 19. Earlier on Oct. 5, Niagara lost 12-8 to Mohawk College of Hamilton. The two games were played at Eastdale High School in Welland.

Photo by Penni Toneguzzo

Computers are the way of the future

A program designed for new students

By KERI-LYNN SMITH
Staff Writer

First-year Computer Programmer/Analyst (Co-op) program student Doug Regher, 20, won't be lost in cyberspace without a job after college.

The St. Catharines resident says computer programming is "a very versatile career. Computers are the way of the future. With my career choice I'm not limited to one country."

Regher attended Centennial College in Scarborough for a year before deciding to come to Niagara College, the less expensive alternative.

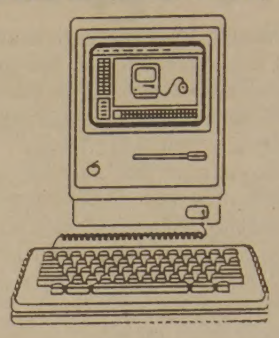
He says the program here is designed for students "who've never touched a computer before," and he wouldn't recommend taking many computer classes before entering the program.

'There's nothing that can not be computerized'

"I feel I have an advantage because I've grasped all the basic concepts," he says, but adds, a student new to computers won't be starting with any bad habits.

He says the good thing about computers is they're always changing. "It's probably going to get to the point where I'm going to be working for eight months of the year and going to school for four months, just to keep up.

"There's nothing that can not be computerized. I feel the mail system will be no more in the next 10 years



... it will all be electronic," Regher says.

Of the new open access computer lab in S109 at the Welland campus, he says he finds it "weird" students are allowed Internet access but not World Wide Web access.

'A very versatile career'

"They're not allowing . . . chatting, yet they have a pub where kids can go and get drunk from 11 to five every day." Regher says World Wide Web access would "draw some of the kids out of the pub."

He says although he wishes more females would take computer programming, the stereotypical computer geek image is all wrong.

"When you think of a computer class you think of this tall, skinny guy with glasses and a pocket protector, and it's not. It's a very practical program to get into," he says.

DOUG REGHER

Photo by Keri-Lynn Smith

Jurmain develops new progams

Ahead of schedule

By JENNIFER ELLIOTT
Staff Writer

Niagara College is just full of new things this year.

With a need to move forward, plan and create new things, who better to do the job than Marti Jurmain.

Jurmain is the director of the New Product Development Division. After being with the college for 21 years, she has plenty of experience.

She first came to Niagara as an English teacher, where she remained for 17 years. She then became the English co-ordinator for two years, moved into the Access Division and then into her current position.

The new division entails many aspects, which are divided into three main components — new product and curriculum development, educational technologies and delivery systems, and educational and business partnerships/articulations.

A product can be, a program, extension of a program, a new way of delivering, such as distance delivery, or new education technology.

Though overwhelming and complex, Jurmain has done her homework and organized a process guide researching things she knows the college will be involved with.

Niagara has three new programs in distance delivery education, which the college is new to this year. BTSD, an academic upgrading program, a Home-Based Business program, and America Hotel/Motel Association Training program.

All three programs operate on distance with manuals for people who can't come to college on a regular basis. However, there is still interaction between teachers and students.

Also new to the college are three credit courses, which are delivered through the Internet. The on-line courses include College English, Issues in a Virtual World and The Virtual Classroom.

'We've set quite an aggressive two-year plan...'

There isn't a change of content to the courses, just a change of delivery, and students do have to have access to the Internet.

"The Internet is fascinating," says Jurmain. "It's like the old model T-Fords, start of the automobile industry. It's that unique and it's that leading edge.

"We've set quite an aggresive two-year plan for different things." Jurmain says.

So what can the college expect? A number of new programs, greater post-diploma opportunities, new technology, computer-based training in continuing education, and more partnerships.

So far the college "is ahead of target for this year," says Jurmain.

Cable cutting ceremony

Students tuition pays for new computer lab

By ADAM KIESWETTER
Staff Writer

A christening ceremony for Niagara College's pioneering new open access Pentium computer lab in S109 will take place Oct. 22 at 11:30 a.m.

The Student Technology Enhancement Committee (STEC) is promoting the "cable" cutting service as an official invitation for students to discover and explore the new lab.

Financing for the lab was provided by funds accumulated by the technology fee tacked onto students' tuition for the first time this year.

Since the lab was funded by students, STEC feels students should play a major role in the naming of the lab, says Brigitte Chiki, the college's director of access and student success.

STEC is asking students to come up with possible names for the room by way of a contest. The winner will receive a prize package consisting of a hat, shirt, shorts, mug and tentatively a photocopy or printer debit card worth about 100 copies, says Jason Chase, chair of STEC and Student Administrative Council (SAC) president.

A plaque celebrating the lab as a student-funded project will be presented, and along with SAC-funded cake and refreshments, students who stop by for the ceremony can look forward to an on-the-spot draw for free printer debit cards.

Submissions are to be directed to the SAC office by Oct. 18, which is in the back of the After Hours pub. Once entries have been accumulated, SAC will narrow them down to about three choices, which will then be passed on to STEC for final approval.

' We want students to be recognized and involved with this project'

This process is different because usually the naming of a room is a more "corporate" decision, says Chicki, explaining that "usually a corporate donation is made, and then they give the name, typically that's how names are usually picked. We want the students to be recognized and involved with this project. This is a very important project for students."

Illegal use of Internet hurts students

By JAMES M. COOTE
Staff Writer

The new computer lab in S109 is an open access lab, which allows students to access a wide variety of programs designed to aid them in their academic pursuits.

There is an underlying fear, however, that the illegal use of the Internet might interfere with working students.

Judy Smerdon, a part-time college technician, said while the majority of the students are using the computers for work-related purposes, there are some who just come in to "chat" on the Internet.

"You may have 50 students using the computers, and 15 to 18 students chatting."

A joint decision was made by the Student Administrative Council and the college not to have the Internet readily available in the open access lab for fear some students might abuse it.

Because the lab is linked to the fileservers for the college, which are linked to the Internet, safeguards will only go so far.

Weldon said another option would be to close off the VAX option from the lab, an option which also allows students to access their grades, timetables, drop and add courses and request transcripts.

But, even after that is done, "If people want to get on, they can find a way," said Weldon.

'If people want to get on, they can find a way'

'People can become addicted to chat lines'

The computers in S109 are not meant to be used for chatting and as students get on the net in that lab they are doing so illegally.

"Access to the Internet is available (in rooms other than ME201, ME202, and L13) only if you circumvent the safeguards that we've put in place," said Beth Weldon, director of information services. "It's not just there, it's everywhere.

"People can become addicted to chat lines."

It's an addiction psychologists have dubbed an Internet Addiction Disorder.

SAC grows a little bigger

By ADAM KIESWETTER
Staff Writer

Student Administrative Council (SAC) got a little fatter.

This year's newly-elected student representatives were introduced to SAC at the Oct. 4 council meeting.

They are Natalie Chambers, 18, a first-year Child and Youth Worker program student, Jason Marazzo, 22, a second-year Visual and Creative Arts program student, and Rhonda-Lynn Des Roches, 35, a second-year Recreational Leadership program student.

Every program at Niagara College elects two class representatives at the beginning of the year, who in turn elect three student representatives.

These representatives regularly relay to SAC the needs and suggestions of the students, says Don Woodruff, executive vice-president of SAC.

Aside from not receiving honorarium, student representatives are full-fledged members of SAC who have a responsibility to voice student concerns. To ensure that SAC actions are in sync with these concerns, the three student representatives can "gang up" on the rest of council and collectively veto undesired motions, says Woodruff.

Another new member at the SAC meeting table is Lynn Dunlap, this year's ex-officio aboriginal student representative.

Dunlap, 24, graduated from the college's Journalism-Print program last year, and is enrolled in the post-diploma Interactive Multimedia program.

This year's SAC includes President Jason Chase, 21, post-diploma Public Relations program, Executive Vice-President Don Woodruff, 21, a first-year Business Administration and Accounting program student; Vice-President Internal Leeann Setchell, 20, a third-year Broadcasting-Radio, Television and Film program student, Vice-President External Kim Fragomeni, 26, post-diploma Correctional Worker program, and Vice-President Athletics Kyle Anderson, 20, a second-year Electronics and Engineering Technology program student.

Students host popular luncheon

By MELISSA LABBE
Staff Writer

The annual Social Service Worker program luncheon helps "first-year students settle in," says Lynn Bird, a Niagara College teacher for 15 years.

Bird, who teaches social work, says the luncheon is "the best and a great" forum for first-and second-year students to get to know one another.

"The luncheon is held so that the second-year students help first-year students settle in and learn about placements."

Bird said the second-year field placements have to be "very different" from the previous year's placement.

About 50 students and teachers attended the luncheon.

Paula Murphy, a second-year Social Service Worker program student and luncheon organizer, says she wanted the students to mingle more.

She started the mingling process by having second-year students stand up and talk about their previous and current field placements.

First-year student Steve Spink, 23, of Welland, says he is anxious to start his field placement.

Spink, who graduated with an honors BA in sociology from Brock University in St. Catharines, says the Social Service Worker program will "put theory into practice. This program will help take what I learn in university and make it realistic."

First-year student Cheryl Marquis, 31, says she thinks "the program is great. At first I felt a little out of place, but that was because everything was new."

Second-year students Alicia Nunn, 22, and Kim Miller, 23, say they think the program is good. "We love it," says Nunn.

Social Service Worker program students gather around a table of veggies, salads, pizza and desserts for their annual luncheon.
Photo by Melissa Labbe

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ENTERTAINMENT

Nutt cracks up After Hours' audience

By JEFF GARRETT
Staff Writer

A small crowd turned out for Comedy Night at After Hours on Oct. 2.

Starting the night off was comedian Tim Nutt, 26, of Vancouver, B.C.

"I started doing comedy because I was dared to do it, and after I got kicked out of university I had no choice;" Nutt said.

Nutt has performed in Niagara Falls, but never at Niagara College.

"An audience is an audience. There's always ups and downs," said Nutt, adding, "People are intellectual superiors at a college or university, but they're also the first to jump down your throat about certain issues."

Nutt has been in the comedy business for three years and is content with what he's doing.

"I don't think there's anybody in the business that doesn't like going on stage. It's the travelling that's the downside,"said Nutt.

Jim McAlleese, 43, of Toronto, was the second performer of the night. It was also his first time at the college.

McAlleese started doing comedy in 1979. In his 17 years he's encountered Howie Mandel and Jim Carrey from time to time.

McAlleese's last time with Jim Carrey was before the movie "The Mask" was released.

"I always knew I wanted to be a comic," said McAlleese. "I used to always admire the comics on the old Ed Sullivan show and Carson . . . I wanted to be a Beatle but I couldn't play the guitar," said McAlleese.

McAlleese is very satisfied with his job, and said, "I've seen the country several times, I've made a comfortable living, and I only work for 45 minutes a day."

Every audience is the same for McAlleese because "as long as people are there for comedy, then I stand a chance, so the only difference between a college and a night club is the age."

Keri Field, of Welland, was in attendance for the comedy show.

The 19-year-old first-year Human Relations student said she's going to "continue to come."

"I like it, it's fun," said Field. "As long as I don't have much work to do, I'll be here."

Field said the only thing she'd change is the music.

"I think they should play more mellow music like the Beatles."

Another student in attendance was Chris Quait, 19, of Welland.

The second-year accounting student said, "As long as I don't have any homework then I'll go."

"The only thing I'd change is having it start earlier, and having more comedy."

"It's a good chance to get together with a few friends and have some drinks and laughs," said Quait.

"Comedy is venting. It's like cheap therapy on our level. We're the philosophers of our time," said Nutt.

Meanwhile, a small crowd of about 100 people saw Jim McNally, of Carlton Place, Ont., perform on Sept. 25.

McNally was a first-time performer at Niagara. "I've been from one end of the country to the other," he said.

The 32-year-old comedian has been doing comedy professionally for seven years, but "I've been doing it since grade school.

Tim Nutt, of Vancouver, B.C., appeared at the Oct. 2 comedy night.
Photo by Jeff Garrett

"Dealing with the audience with hands of comedy" is McNally's method of performing.

"College and university crowds are easier to perform to because night club crowds aren't as with it.

"My favorite type of gig though is when people are there to listen and appreciate comedy," said McNally.

The second comedian on Sept. 25 was Steve Brinder, of Toronto, a part-time teacher and part-time comedian.

"I teach and do stand-up comedy. I'm the real thing."

Brinder has been in the comedy business for 15 years. He has worked on Breakfast Television on CITY-TV. He opened for comic Howie Mandel last month while touring the U.S.

"I also worked with Jay Leno 10 years ago in Vancouver," he said.

"I was shy and comedy was my way of making the environment easier to handle.

"I love to teach, but when you're on stage and you're making people laugh, it's magic.

"I remember when I got a ride home from a young guy in the comedy gig, and he was in tears," said Brinder. "He was crying because *he though people didn't like his* skits, but I told him he did all right. That boy was Jim Carrey."

Yuk Yuk's nights have Grade 'A' comedy

By JEFF GARRETT
Staff Writer

Three beefy comedians are coming to Niagara College on Oct. 16.

Yuk Yuk's Komedy Kabaret and Corona Extra will present the 100% Grade "A" Alberta Beef Comedy Tour.

Andrew Grose, of Edmonton, Kevin Sotobo, of Red Deer, Alta., and Chris Nannarone, of Calgary, are the 100% Grade "A" Alberta Beef Comedy group.

The comedy trio is touring Canada, visiting every province within a five-month period.

Some of Grose's credits include Comedy at Club 54 Television show, Much Music, Lunch Television in Toronto, the People's Comedy Festival, and the Calgary Stampede.

Sotobo's resume includes The Dini Petti Show, Second City Comedy Troupe, and The Comedy Store in Los Angeles.

Nannarone has opened for singer Kathy Mattea, comics Rich Hall, John Byner, David Brenner, Tommy Chong and J.J. Walker. Nannarone has also done comedy at the Club 54 Television Show.

The tour is the largest event of its kind by Yuk Yuks Komedy Kabaret.

Growing up with the guys from Sloan

By JENNIFER ELLIOTT
Staff Writer

After two years of rumored breakups and a change of record labels, Sloan gives us yet another: **One Chord to Another.**

Chris Murphy, Jay Ferguson, Patrick Pentland and Andrew Scott combine four personalities to create the perfect band.

Regardless of the rumors spread this past year, the release of their third CD in June proves otherwise.

Sloan was more than together as they performed to a sold-out crowd at Isaac's Pub at Brock University in St. Catharines on Sept. 28.

They've grown up a little since their debut album **Smeared**. In its entirety, the 12-track CD is more upbeat right from first tune, *The Good In Everyone*.

The decision where to record the new album after leaving Geffen Records was undetermined.

Pentland, on guitar/vocals, says if they were going to do it in Canada they wanted to do it on their own record label, Murderecords. "This way we'd make more money. There's no sense in giving it to someone else."

Local Rabbits, also on Murderecords, followed by Elevator to Hell, opened the show. The crowd was ready for Sloan as they started the set with *Nothing Left to Make Me Want to Stay*.

Even though their bus broke down, Sloan didn't have their own equipment, and the sound was discord, it didn't faze the crowd.

Chris Murphy of Sloan singing his heart out.
Photo by Jennifer Elliott

Sloan's reputation for appealing to a younger crowd was upheld, as the all ages show proved to be just that.

But that's fine with Murphy, on bass/vocals, actually he wants it that way. "That's ideal, a wet and dry show. If you wanna come and drink go ahead, but I don't drink and have no infinity for people who do."

Pausing only for a breath, Murphy says he doesn't care if people don't want to come because there is no booze being served. "Everyone should be allowed to come."

Murphy says the issue is problematic. "Maybe some older people don't want to come and see us because it's teeny-boppery, but I think our music, especially now, appeals to older people."

All the same, it doesn't bother him either way, he says.

As for Pentland and Scott, on drums/vocals, they prefer to play for people closer to their age. In the U.S., most of their shows are done at bars, where it is age of majority.

Despite a yes vote on all ages shows, Sloan has becomes less lenient when people attempt to get to the front of the stage via crowd surfing. "We're tired and older, and we just want people to listen."

Murphy says he remembers what it is like to be young, and how boring it can be. "I love kids and I have a lot of patience for them. They're the biggest music fans anyway."

Although Sloan has made a big name for itself, Murphy says they're really only big and recognized in Ontario. "I'd like to be that big everywhere, yet I would never want to have to play arenas."

With two videos, *The Good In Everyone* and *Everything You've Done Wrong*, Sloan is receiving a lot of exposure and becoming more popular because of that.

That doesn't bother Murphy who made a long and dramatic exit from the stage. "I have a pretty long fuse and I thrive on attention."

Sloan's music is simplistic, yet sophisticated. "We put a lot of time into it and we are really interested in making records, and making history, and we think we're going to do it," Murphy says with emphasis.

"I think we're the perfect band."

ENTERTAINMENT

Material from Nirvana's live archives

By DERRICK VANDER-LELY
Staff Writer

"No Recess!"

This is what you will hear Kurt Cobain screaming off the first live song on the new Nirvana CD, **From the Muddy Banks of the Wishkah**.

The album, a 17-song compilation of live material, was put together by bass player Krist Novoselic and drummer Dave Grohl.

The songs were taken from various live shows around the world from 1989 to 1994 and spans the four-album career of Seattle's Nirvana.

. . . From the Muddy banks of Wishkah highlights what Nirvana did best.

The high energy of Nirvana's live shows is clearly captured on this CD, from the raw intensity of *Negative Creep* to the highly melodic sing-along of *Sliver*.

If you already have all of Nirvana's albums and you are hoping for some new material, you'll hear some alternative versions of songs. A surprisingly upbeat version of the normally acoustic *Polly* can be found, as well as slightly different versions of both *Breed* and *Tourettes*. Both make for happy listening.

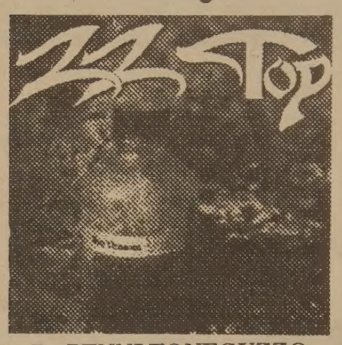
Five songs from the band's 1992 smash **Nevermind** are included on the CD and, yes, one of the songs is *Smells like Teen Spirit*. If there's one thing this album will prove, it is that Nirvana had many great songs besides the aforementioned *Teen Spirit*.

Many die-hard fans will enjoy the b-sides and the songs from Nirvana's debut album **Bleach** that are included.

The sound quality is good, considering it is a live album, and the songs do blend well together despite the fact that they were taken from many different shows.

Not necessarily a CD for more casual Nirvana fans, **From the Muddy Banks of the Wishkah** highlights what Nirvana did best — playing loud, aggressive music.

The Rhytheem of ZZ Top



By PENNI TONEGUZZO
Staff Writer

WOW!

Definitely ZZ Top at its best!

ZZ Top's newly-released album, **Rhytheem**, has the southern rock, kick-butt sound once again.

The guitars wail loud and clear, and the band members' mellow voices link together to make this album another classic.

I can't pinpoint one tune that is better than another on the new album. They all grab my attention and make me want to listen.

Of course, ZZ Top will always be a unique band, but I think this album will attract many new listeners.

The band has been described to me as "slick with an edge," and I believe that after listening to this album.

After hiding away for a few years, ZZ Top has come back to reality with a bang!

I give ZZ Top's new album 10 out of 10, and two thumbs up!

A circus of music at After Hours

By MIKE HASTINGS
Staff Writer

The circus was here!

The Punch Drunk Monkeys performed their circus act to an audience of about 100 people at After Hours on Sept. 25.

The band made its way to the stage accompanied by circus music, and then with everyone in place, they rocked the pub with songs from their new CD **Cruel and Unusual.**

The Binghamton, N.Y., band includes Crappy the Clown on vocals, Mr. Zermba on guitars, Dan-O Voodie on bass guitar, the Reverend on keyboards and Uncle Charlie on drums.

"We've been together for two years," said bassist Voodie. "Our music is over-the-top rock 'n' roll with a punk twist to it."

The band's musical influences range from early heavy metal to punk.

The show consisted of loud music, the group running around on stage, fire breathing, and a demonstration of Voodie putting his whole body through an iron-coat hanger.

'Our music is over-the-top rock 'n' roll with a punk twist to it.' — Voodie

During the 1 1/2-hour set, the band members threw out popcorn, Corn Flakes, buns and donuts into the crowd, turning the pub into a high school cafeteria food fight.

The song topics are nothing "earth shattering," ranging from a Rabbitboy and a song about donuts.

"We are trying to get the opening spot on the Marilyn Manson show when they play Toronto," said Voodie.

Punch Drunk Monkeys are not on a major record label. The band's independent record label is M-Press.

The band will continue to play clubs in the U.S. and Canada to promote the CD **Cruel and Unusual.**

So the next time this circus act rolls into town, go and check them out. They are definitely an entertaining band to watch.

Jacksoul dos and don'ts

By JASON YOUNG
Staff Writer

Instead of the usual scribblings of a typical CD reviewer, here's a list of dos and don'ts involving the new Jacksoul CD **ABsolute**.

DO put this CD in your stereo while you relax in the evening as the sun sets and you're sipping margueritas with a loved one.

DON'T throw this disc on at your Uncle Spike's bike gang initiation party, especially right after Black Sabbath's *War Pigs* has just finished playing.

DO listen to it while you're at the office working, car-pooling, meditating, or installing an elevator-style sound system into your home.

DON'T play this CD while psyching yourself up for a triathalon, mosh-pit competition or an Australian rules rugby match.

DO buy it if you're into soothing R&B musicianship that is complemented by a velvety-soft voice comparable to that of Seal or the Neville Brothers.

Jacksoul, a 1996 Juno nominee, have a name you'll be hearing more about in the future or while waiting in the lounge of your nearest dentist's office.

Gothic sounds of October Rust

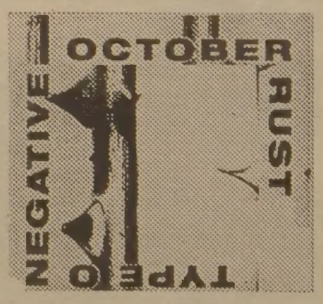
By MIKE HASTINGS
Staff Writer

Starts off as a joke, with 38 seconds of open amp noise and nothing else; from there 72 minutes of haunting and militant songs.

October Rust is the new album from the Brooklyn-based goth band Type O Negative. The band consists of lead singer and bassist Peter Steele, keyboardist Josh Silver, guitarist Kenny Hickey, and drummer Johnny Kelly.

October Rust keeps your attention from start to finish with the bands Halloween sound. The current single is *My Girlfriend's Girlfriend* which has a psychadelic feeling and a disco beat with Steeles' deep and hypnotic voice.

October Rust is the follow-up album to the band's 1993 album **Bloody Kisses** which went gold (selling 500,000 copies). This was a first for Type O's record label Roadrunner.



The song topics include love, death, the environment, a wolf man, relationships ending, gods, druidesses. They also do a cover of Neil Young's *Cinnamon Girl*.

The songs have two different rhythms, a mellow rhythm, like in the songs *The Haunted*, *Wolf Moon*, *In Praise of Bacchus*, and *Red Water (Christmas Mourning)*, and an aggressive rhythm like in the songs *Be My Druidess*, *Greenman*, and *Burnt Flowers Fallen*.

The sound and quality of this album is a step up from the band's previous album. Steele's voice is heard clearly. Birds chirping and other nature sound effects can be heard in the background on some of the songs.

Type O Negative fans have waited a long time for this release, but the wait is finally over and they will not be disappointed. Anyone who likes gothic music will like **October Rust**.

Type O Negative is currently touring the United States and Canada with Life of Agony.

A revival of Deep Purple with Purpendicular

By ROBERT HALLETT
Staff Writer

Few bands stick around for 25 years, but Deep Purple is one of those bands.

Deep Purple has rocked the world since 1969 with songs like *My Woman From Tokyo*.

The band's newest release, **Purpendicular**, is one of the band's more exciting and adventurous albums to date.

Although Ritchie Blackmore walked out on the band in mid-tour during the fall of 1993, the four remaining original members drafted Joe Satriani for the rest of the tour.

Later, they asked much-respected former Dixie Dregs/Kanas guitarist Steve Morse to join them as a permanent member.

Band members are Ian Gillian, lead vocals, Roger Glover, bassist, Jon Lord, keyboards, Ian Paice, drummer, and new guitarist Steve Morse.

Purpendicular is one of the band's more exciting and adventurous albums to date.

The album, produced by the band, varies from the just-for-the-hell-of-it jam of *Rosa's Cantina* (retained from an earlier demo), the opening romp of *Ted the Mechanic*, the queasy fairground ride of *Soon Forgotten*, and the playfully affectionate *A Touch Away*, to the moody restraint of the first single *Sometimes I Feel Like Screaming*.

The lyrics of the songs were written by Gillian and Glover. Some songs were inspired by a number of different true-life experiences. *Ted the Mechanic* is about a guy who is an archtypical bar-room bore who reels off his life story until the beer runs dry.

Somebody Stole My Guitar is about a bizarre amalgamation of a drinking session with *Drift Away* composer Mentor Williams and a subsequent visit to a ghost town on the road to Los Angeles.

The band is pleased with the album and even Morse is quoted as saying he can't wait to take this album out on the road.

Niagara Regional Police unveil true colors

The platform party included Police Services Board Chair Roy Adams, Niagara Regional Police Chief J. Grant Waddell, representative of the solicitor general Cam Jackson, Deputy Chief Gary Nicholls, retired staff sergeant Steve Rowe of the RCMP, Niagara Regional Chair Brian Merrett, Niagara College teacher and city councillor Michael Collins, Inspector I.W. Fiddes of the Senior Officers Association, Father Brian Bevan and Pastor Tony Sardello. Also attending the service were members of the Ontario Provincial Police, the Niagara Regional Police Male Chorus, St. Catharines MP Walt Lastewka and family, as well as all area MPPs.

Photo by Janice Poole

Five members of the Niagara Regional Police Service pose for a picture after the presentation of the colors at Central Gospel Church, St. Catharines.

Photo by Janice Poole

By JANICE POOLE
Staff Writer

Ontario Lieutenant-Governor Henry N.R. Jackman presented new colors to the Niagara Regional Police Service (NRPS) in a special service at Central Gospel Church in St. Catharines on Oct. 6.

The colors presented by the lieutenant-governor include the version of the national badge for municipal police services in the form particular to the NRPS.

The national badge was created in 1991 by Her Majesty the Queen on the recommendation of the Governor General.

"Her Majesty granted personal approval because of the use of the Crown in the shield," said Inspector Bob Cuipa of 11 Division in St. Catharines.

Regional Niagara was founded on Jan. 1, 1970 and was the first regional municipality in Ontario. The NRPS, founded on Jan. 1, 1971, became Ontario's first regional police service.

After celebrating its 25th anniversary last year, the region approached the Chief Herald of Canada to be issued a distinctive coat of arms that would represent the history and peoples of the area.

tion of the provincial flower from the province where the police service is located, all ensigned by the Royal Crown.

Also shared is the shield of arms of that particular community encircled by a scroll containing the motto of the police service to whom the badge is granted.

The central element of the new NRPS badge is the shield drawn from the coat of arms of the Regional Municipality of Niagara. Its green background represents the rich agricultural lands and parks of the region. The blue and white band in the centre represents both the Niagara Escarpment and Niagara Falls, as well as the Welland Canal with its locks represented in the chevrons.

These 12 blue chevrons also represent the 12 area municipalities linked together in the region. The gold lines represent the wealth which flows from the attributes of the Niagara Region. The Royal Crown in gold symbolizes the first parliament in Ontario in Newark (Niagara-on-the-Lake.)

"It is a reflection of the historic Loyalist tradition within the Niagara Region," said Cuipa.

The badge becomes the third in the history of the NRPS. This is the the first time, however, Niagara has a symbol for the police created specifically for them that represents the community, the peoples and the heritage.

1996

The Canadian Heraldic Authority was established by the Governor General on June 4, 1988, under powers granted by Royal Letters Patent received from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II as Queen of Canada. Canada's Governor-General Romeo LeBlanc is the head of the authority.

Canada is the first country in the Commonwealth outside the United Kingdom to exercise this ancient Royal prerogative in its own domain.

"This badge is a registered piece of heraldry and becomes a permanent part of the heraldic tradition which dates back 1,300 years," said Cuipa.

Coats of arms, which are grants of honor from the Crown, are symbols of authority, ownership and identity. The national badge may be granted to any municipal police service which is a part of a municipal corporation that possesses a coat of arms by lawful grant from the Crown.

An element shared by all such badges is a frame of gold maple leaves rising up from a representa-

Maria Klokkou, a renowned Niagara Falls artist, is preparing a limited edition print as a token of appreciation for those who support the police through this historic change.

For donations of $75 or more, a copy of this historic limited edition print containing scenes from around the Niagara Region, together with the new police badge, will be presented to donors as a token of appreciation.

"All funds are raised through donations. There is no burden to the taxpayer," said Cuipa.

Donations will be accepted and prints and receipts issued at chambers of commerce throughout the region. Donations made payable to the Regional Municipality of Niagara will receive a receipt for income tax purposes.

The print will be available until early December.

JUSTICE

Getting back to basics with the Canine Unit

Constable Jeff Hopkins demonstrates agility training with Police Service Dog (PSD) Herc.

Photo by Janice Poole

PSD Argo looks on as Niagara Regional Police Chief J. Grant Waddell accepts a cheque from members of the Stamford Lions Club outside Eden Christian College in Niagara-on-the Lake.

Photo by Janice Poole

By JANICE POOLE
Staff Writer

The Niagara Regional Police Canine Unit held a press conference and demonstration for the media on Oct. 4 to display the talents of the new recruits.

Acting Sergeant Bob Wright ran the dogs through a series of tests to demonstrate their abilities after being in training for only three weeks.

The 13-week basic training course teaches the dogs obedience, agility, tracking, building searches, area searches, evidence searches, chase and apprehension, chase and standoff, disarming and handler protection.

Members of the Stamford Lions Club as well as the Chief of Police J. Grant Waddell were present.

Waddell said "I never cease to be impressed" when hearing reports about what the Canine Unit is doing.

"They are superbly led by Bob Wright. I'm extremely proud of what they do," said Waddell.

A cheque was given to Waddell by members of the Stamford Lions Club on the front steps of the training centre at Eden Christian College in Niagara-on-the-Lake. They donated the money to purchase Onyx from the Czech Republic. Onyx is no longer in training with Wright.

"Onyx wasn't working out because of lack of drive. He doesn't have what it takes to be a police dog," said Constable Gord Nash. "If the dog lacks in a certain area in the 10 characteristics needed to pass the course, then the dog is replaced by a new one."

The handler, Constable Dave Meade, was given another dog from Eastern Europe in place of Onyx.

Wright said that despite the fact Onyx was gone, he was "confident" that he would be able to complete the course with Meade and the new dog.

Other groups that have donated money to the Canine Unit include the Merritton Lions Club, the Ridgeway Lions Club, the Fort Erie Lions Club and the Grimsby Rotary Club.

"I'm very happy with all the dogs and all the handlers," said Wright.

The graduation ceremony will be held on Dec. 12.

PSD Thunder takes a break after the chase and standoff exercise.

Photo by Janice Poole

Acting Sergeant Bob Wright explains the training exercises to a member of CHCH-TV Hamilton (Channel 11.)

Photo by Janice Poole

Attending basic training from the Haldiman-Norfolk Region are Constable Yancy Eddie with PSD Thunder (left) and Constable Dan Taylor with PSD Argo.

Photo by Janice Poole

FROM THE HIP

Offensive comments

By MELISSA LABBE
Staff Writer

Quebec Superior Court Justice Jean Bienvenue made headlines for his recent retirement in relation to comments he made during a murder trial. The victim's throat was cut.

He passed judgment on the female defendant personally. The comments he made about the woman were unprofessional and offensive to many people.

Bienvenue remarked on the cruelness of women in general and compared the murder the defendant allegedly committed to the mass murder of Jewish people by the Nazis.

An article in the Oct. 7 issue of Maclean's magazine reported that Bienvenue said, "even the Nazis did not eliminate millions of Jews in a painful or bloody manner. They died in the gas chamber, without suffering."

Excuse me?

I don't understand how the two relate. There is only so far you can stretch the boundaries of a comparison.

Please don't misunderstand me. I sincerely believe that all acts of murder are hideous and deplorable. However, I think it is obvious that there are levels of obscenity.

Perhaps I was offended by the casual manner in which the judge mentioned the attempted genocide of the Jewish race.

Perhaps I was offended because I am a woman. I fully acknowledge the fact that women can be as heartless and brutal as men, yet I wonder if the justice would have been prompted to make the comment if the defendant were a man.

Does this make me a femi-Nazi? What would the justice think of me then?

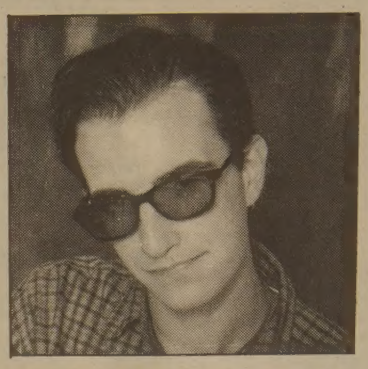
His comments make me wonder about his mentality and the influence it has on his ability to be impartial.

I am offended that the only reason he retired was to make sure he remained eligible for a six-figure pension.

Bienvenue maintained that he said nothing wrong. If he had not found out that the Canadian Judicial Council recommended he be dismissed, he would be still sitting on the bench passing the wrong kind of judgments.

He will get no fond farewell from me.

Fervent moral 'nightmares'



By ADAM KIESWETTER
Staff Writer

The wide-ranging, technological marvels of the modern world are riveting achievements.

Being alive is obscenely exciting.

People of the past probably reflectively pondered precisely the same thing, yet marked, militant and awe-inspiring achievements in fundamental genetics and human reproductive technique, while wondrous, raise critical and wholly staggering ethical considerations.

In a recent Maclean's magazine article, the "nightmarish but technically feasible" endeavors of the thoroughly enterprising medical science community, left me shaking my head, and chilled to the bone.

Who exactly is qualified to justify our bounding technological progressions?

How can a society that still gets in a tiff over circumcision possibly cope with moral decisions as deep as surrogate motherhood, gender selection or genetic alteration of embryos, to in effect produce a perfect human product.

Product.

Is that what the pristine embodiment of human procreation is supposed to be? Manufactured?

Is that what the pristine embodiment of human procreation is supposed to be? Manufactured?

Even the gravely intense issue of abortion, a subject that hatches horrendous indignation and resentment, has at least found an equivalent in regards to generating ire when the feasibility of human cloning is discussed.

More perfect products.

The article also mentions the gagging prospect of extracting eggs from aborted fetuses and fertilizing them with sperm harvested from a cadaver.

While this would most certainly represent a sublimely stunning accomplishment for humankind, even the thought of this procedure almost makes me retch!

The revolting repercussions of such a practice are beyond number.

These monstrously epic advances used to be the stuff of creepy science series, or perhaps at most a brow-furrowing documentary — nothing but zealously keen glimpses into a fictional, far-off land.

But we live in that tomorrow land.

For the most part, we as college students have just teetered on the fringes of such issues as abortion. Watching from the sidelines as explosive emotion, heatedly tries to reason with black and white constitutional rights and rhetoric.

Assuredly we can one day expect to find ourselves immersed in the dire ethical dilemmas which are sitting juxtapose to these volatile, revolutionary accomplishments.

Science won't wait for us to accede to its achievements, but be aware, and be ready, because the sparks it sets today will doubtlessly ignite roaring bouts of blistering controversy in our future; and the onus will lie with us to either embrace the ingenuity, or sink the unsettling ship.

Let's make our education free

By JASON YOUNG
Staff Writer

Tuition sucks!

Have I got your attention?

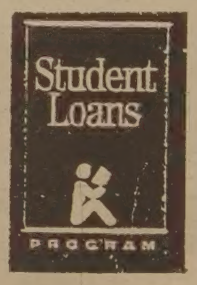
Good, let's begin. I'm not going to ramble on about my gripes with tuition, the Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) and living expenses. But I'm going to offer a solution for it all. Let's have free education.

The concept of free education is a novel one. It's been done in other countries. Why not Canada?

Although our beloved country is in debt billions, perhaps if the Canadian government were to fully fund educational expenses, the outcome of educated graduates would have the answers to Canada's economical maladies.

For instance:

1) If school were free, the government would be appreciated more by the students. Hence, an interest in political activity and an increase in voting power.



2) The financially disadvantaged will have a chance to gain knowledge and have opportunity to contribute back to society in a positive and beneficial manner. Who's to say the next Albert Einstein or Roberta Bondar could be a young individual that has no choice but to sling burgers. Usually because he/she can't afford tuition or unacceptance of OSAP because of a family's financial situation.

3) If free education meant salary cutbacks, only the teachers that are passionate about their career would settle for less money. Those money-hungry teachers can move on to another job to help them achieve the "must have a Muskoka cottage" syndrome. In other words, the QUALITY of teaching will be better.

4) More students are spending money on college education and then going to university afterwards or vice/versa. That could mean anywhere from five to eight years of school. That's a lot of dough!

Do today's leaders realize this? Do our parents and elders?

5) As today's students and tomorrow's leaders, the list of complaints, anxieties, worries, and ideas will grow, so let's fill our heads with a "collective objective" and be strong. We can make things better; we WILL make things better.

Aristotle said of education, "... and man is equipped at birth with the weapon of intelligence, and with qualities of character which he may use for the vilest ends."

The concept of free education is a novel one. It's been done in other countries. Why not Canada?

Logic completely destroyed

By JENNIFER HARDING
Staff Writer

Okay, I think we've all lost it.

My faith in society using logic has been completely destroyed.

A six-year-old accused of sexual harassment? You've got to be kidding!

All he did was kiss a six-year-old girl on the cheek.

I remember the days, not so long ago, when we used to play kissing tag.

Wow, I guess we'd all be criminals now.

America's Funniest Home Videos should be charged for pornography since they show tapes of flower girls kissing ring bearers all the time. And they claim they're family television.

Doesn't it seem a little absurd to anyone that a child who probably doesn't even know what sex is, got suspended for sexual harassment?

There is a time of childhood innocence when kissing is just something gross that people on television do and that parents do, and that can give cooties to another kid.

That's been destroyed for this kid.

I think a comedian said it best, saying that not only did he have to miss school with his friends, but his mother also had to take him to the doctor for a cooties shot.

I agree that there may be a point to cross that would justify sexual harassment by a six year old, but a kiss on the cheek is not it.

I just hope that this child won't be affected for the rest of his life by some stupid people who want to criminalize every innocent act.

I can just see him on his honeymoon, terrified to touch his bride.

Well, I guess that's what some are looking for.

Film festival will recognize BRTF students

By KERI-LYNN SMITH
Staff Writer

Niagara College graduates are attracting all kinds of attention.

Former Broadcasting-Radio, Television and Film (BRTF) program students are being recognized by the Montreal International Film Festival, TVOntario and the Academy of Canadian Film and Television.

Gene Alexander's film, *Faceless*, was invited to participate in a public screening at the Montreal International Film Festival in August.

Faceless was based on a script he wrote from his experiences living with street kids while filming a documentary, *Touching Sky*, dealing with the same topic.

For research for his documentary, Alexander, who ended up relocating to Toronto, "actually dressed up as a street kid and hung out on the streets in Toronto panhandling," says Elias Petras, an instructor in the BRTF program.

The experience inspired Alexander to make a 24-minute drama.

"Gene is a particularly committed person as well as film maker. He has very strong political and social beliefs, and the films he makes reflect that just by their subject matter," says Petras.

The Montreal festival is the equivalent of the Toronto International Film Festival, and the two are major film festivals in the world today, Petras says. They show films from throughout the world, but the Montreal festival includes a student-film competition as part of its program.

The student component receives films from schools across Canada. Petras says Alexander attended the screening and was very excited to see his film on the big screen.

Newfoundland: Coming or Going, by Noel Harris, won second prize at the TVOntario, TVO Telefest Awards. The awards gala will take place Oct. 16 in Toronto, where Noel lives since graduating.

The documentary is about the migration of Newfoundlanders to Ontario, specifically Cambridge. The film crew actually went to Cambridge and Newfoundland for filming, and raised the money for the trip themselves.

"It really deals with what is a serious problem in this country, which is the mass migration of people out of Newfoundland. The population is just being literally drained," says Petras, adding the film portrays both sides of the story.

It depicts Newfoundlanders in Cambridge and Newfoundlanders who stayed behind. It also includes Newfoundlanders who have been to Cambridge and then gone back. Harris himself is from the East Coast.

'Gene is a committed person as well as film maker.'

Petras describes Harris as "a real go-getter ... he'll go to all ends once he's got a project. He'll get it done and get it done well."

Harris and Alexander aren't the only Niagara College alumni to be making waves in their chosen field.

Lucy Decandido won first place in the Educational Video category at the Telefest Awards for her production, *Where Does it all Come From*, produced for the Ontario Federation of Agriculture.

It's aimed at teaching kindergarten-level students about what happens on the farm. It was shot in the Niagara Region, and copies have been distributed to schools across the province of Ontario. The video was the first student production to be completed on the Avid non-linear editing system recently donated to the college by Rogers Cable.

Decandido works for CBC Newsworld in Halifax, and as it's a bit of a trip to come to Ontario to accept the award, Tony Adams, will accept the award on her behalf. Adams is a former instructor in the BRTF program.

"I'm very pleased for Lucy. She was an excellent student," says Adams, adding her video has been well received, and adds, "It's my pleasure to accept it for her."

But there's more.

Dustin Crawford, Robert Lilley and Melissa Joseph were three of about 600 applicants to th Academy of Canadian Film an Television Apprenticeship program Out of the 600, about 50 finalists ar chosen and 12 to 14 apprentice ships are granted. While the thre Niagara students didn't receive th apprenticeships, they did make it t the list of finalists.

The decisions are made throug interviews, letters of reference an students' portfolios. The Academ of Canadian Film and Televisio is the equivalent to the America academy, which puts on th Academy Awards. In Canada, th academy puts on the Genie an Gemini awards.

"It's a tough competition," say Petras.

Although Niagara College ha had winners of the apprenticeshi in the past, this is the first year thre of the 50 finalists were from th college. Lilley, Crawford an Joseph are from the East Coast, an were all "top-notch students," h says.

Crawford, Lilley and Joseph liv in Nova Scotia, Cambridge an Toronto respectively.

College students play a role in magazine program

By BRIAN HALLETT
Staff Writer

The link between Niagara College and Rogers Cable is getting stronger and stronger.

The college is helping Rogers broadcast a new show called Rogers News Magazine.

The broadcast involves all 23 third-year Broadcasting Radio Television and Film (BRTF) students specializing in the radio-television presentation.

There are six students each week that get assigned two stories. The stories are sports or news stories. The students do Electronic News Gathering, get taped footage and do voice over stories.

Andrew Stuart, a graduate from the BRTF program last April, is the news anchor. He reads the news and assists in gathering the stories.

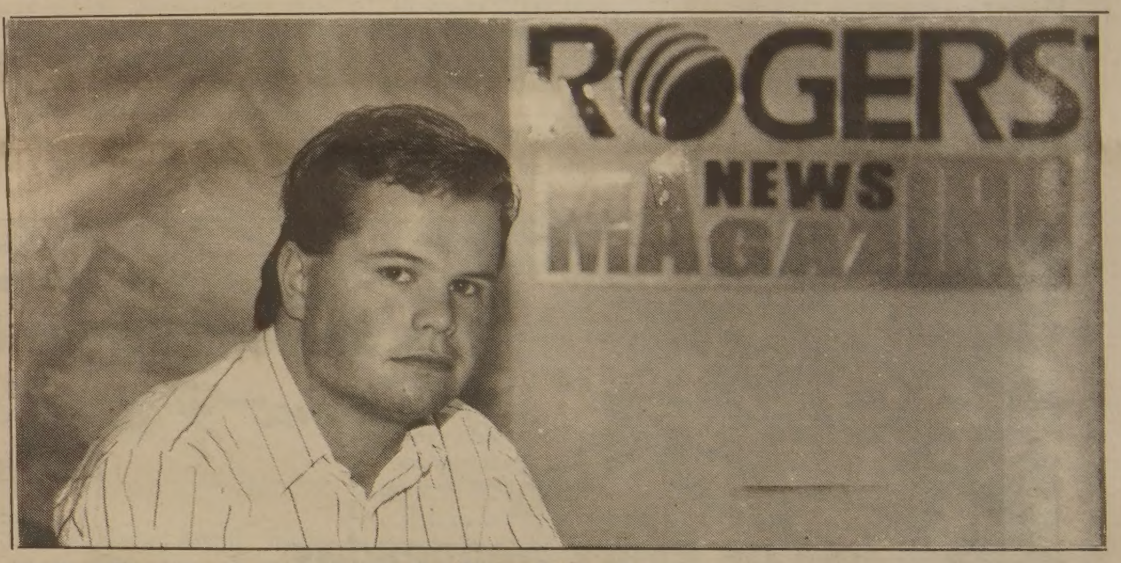
The program provides local news from Niagara Region.

'It's the first and only televised news show in the Niagara region.'

"It's the first and only televised news show in the Niagara Region," said Stuart, adding the show covers topics such as the auto workers' strike, local council meetings and local sports stories like high school sports and Junior B hockey.

The show airs at 6:30 p.m., 8:30 p.m. and 11:30 p.m. and is repeated at noon the next day. A weekend edition is broadcast on Fridays.

Stuart said this service "is needed in this area." He said he hopes people will "watch us."



Andrew Stuart, anchorperson, on set at Rogers Magazine.

Photo by Colin Huneault

BUFS screens 'Man of Marble'

By ADAM KIESWETTER
Staff Writer

You had to be a true cinematic connoisseur to appreciate the Sept. 27 Brock University Film Society (BUFS) screening of the grimly intense *Man of Marble*, by Polish director Andrzej Wajda.

A chronicle within a chronicle, the film explores the mechanics of myth manufacturing by portraying the slightly neurotic efforts of a struggling university film student.

The risqué 1977 film details the mounting obsession of the ambitious young Agnieszka. She is researching Mateusz Birkut, a forthright and humble working class hero propelled to the rank of national hero during Poland's post-Second World War reconstruction.

While battling back indifferent, yet increasingly scrutinizing university department heads, Agnieszka compiles her patchwork film pieces and sifts through the various directorial slants she encounters in these pieces.

Wadja attempts to expose the line between artifice and reality through Agnieszka's research detailing the underlying manipulation and propaganda techniques utilized by the image-conscious postwar government.

The audience becomes sharply aware of the importance of objective interpretation and the true power to persuade yielded by the director.

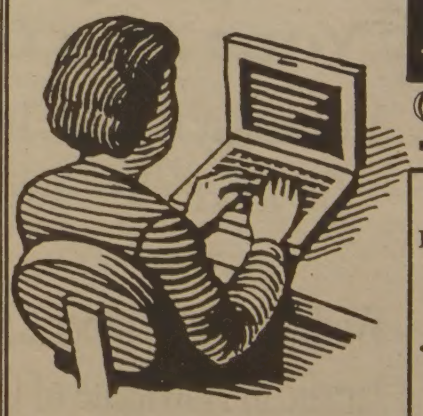
Despite a devastating, complete cut in her film's funding, Agnieszka perseveres and attains the support of the one true individual that has the power to piece together her disjointed project, thereby ending the film on an triumphant note.

The film was a tedious three hours long. What made it seem even longer was its stark socialist settings and bleakly bland backgrounds which only furthered Wadja's depiction of a quietly controlled environment.

'What made the film seem even longer was its socialist settings, and bland background,'-Kieswetter

Man of Marble is concentrated, insightful and not at all for a casual audience.

For BUFS membership information call 688-5550 ext. 3257 or 3338.



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SAC president committed to students

By ADAM KIESWETTER
Staff Writer

A broad smile and a hearty handshake are what students have to look forward to when dealing with their student council president this year.

During last March's student council elections, 21-year-old Jason Chase was elected president of the Student Administrative Council (SAC) on an election platform promising "hard work, dedication, and compassion."

Now, more than six months after being selected by students as the chief representative of their needs, his dedication shows no signs of decay.

"I'm willing to help anybody out," says Chase. "If I've got the time I'll help, even it it's only 10 minutes I donate, I still want to help."

Chase graduated from Sir Winston Churchill High School in St. Catharines, where he was captain of the football team. He is in his third year at Niagara College.

He earned his diploma in the college's two-year Journalism-Print program and is enrolled in the post-diploma Public Relations program.

Although this is the first time he has been involved with student politics, he says he's confident he can "make a difference for students."

He says his interest in student government was started by his being a reporter for the school newspaper — the Niagara News — because much of his work "spilled over into SAC."

"Just by going out to some of the events, I saw where they had shortfalls. I thought 'hmmm,' I could do this better. It almost came as a personal challenge to make it a little better for students."

He says his training and work as a novice journalist is an asset because it developed in him the assertive attitude needed for the position of student council president.

"Being a journalist you have to be outgoing. You can't be afraid to ask questions, you can't be afraid to approach people."

While tackling his new responsibilities this summer, Chase established himself as a fixture around the Welland campus, and says he wants to continue contributing as much as possible in order to surpass last year's student council because he feels they "just touched a little bit of the surface of what students want.

"This year, anything that goes on, I want to be there," he says.

Chase lives on his own in St. Catharines, and in addition to working about 14 hours this summer for students, he worked as a grocery clerk at the Hartzel Road Superfresh supermarket in St. Catharines.

Jason Chase, Student Administrative Council president, greets a student during Orientation Week.

Photo by Adam Kieswetter

He says one thing he's seen this summer at the college was "a lot of the behind the scenes people, like caretakers and that, have been laid off. They're not really people that everybody would notice, but being here all summer you get to meet them."

The college is achieving most goals set for itself in the past, says Chase, but he insists "there's always room for improvement everywhere.

"I think that if you don't think there's any room for improvement, then you've already failed. Every year when you assess yourself, instead of giving yourself a 10 out of 10, say you're an eight, so next time you have something to strive for."

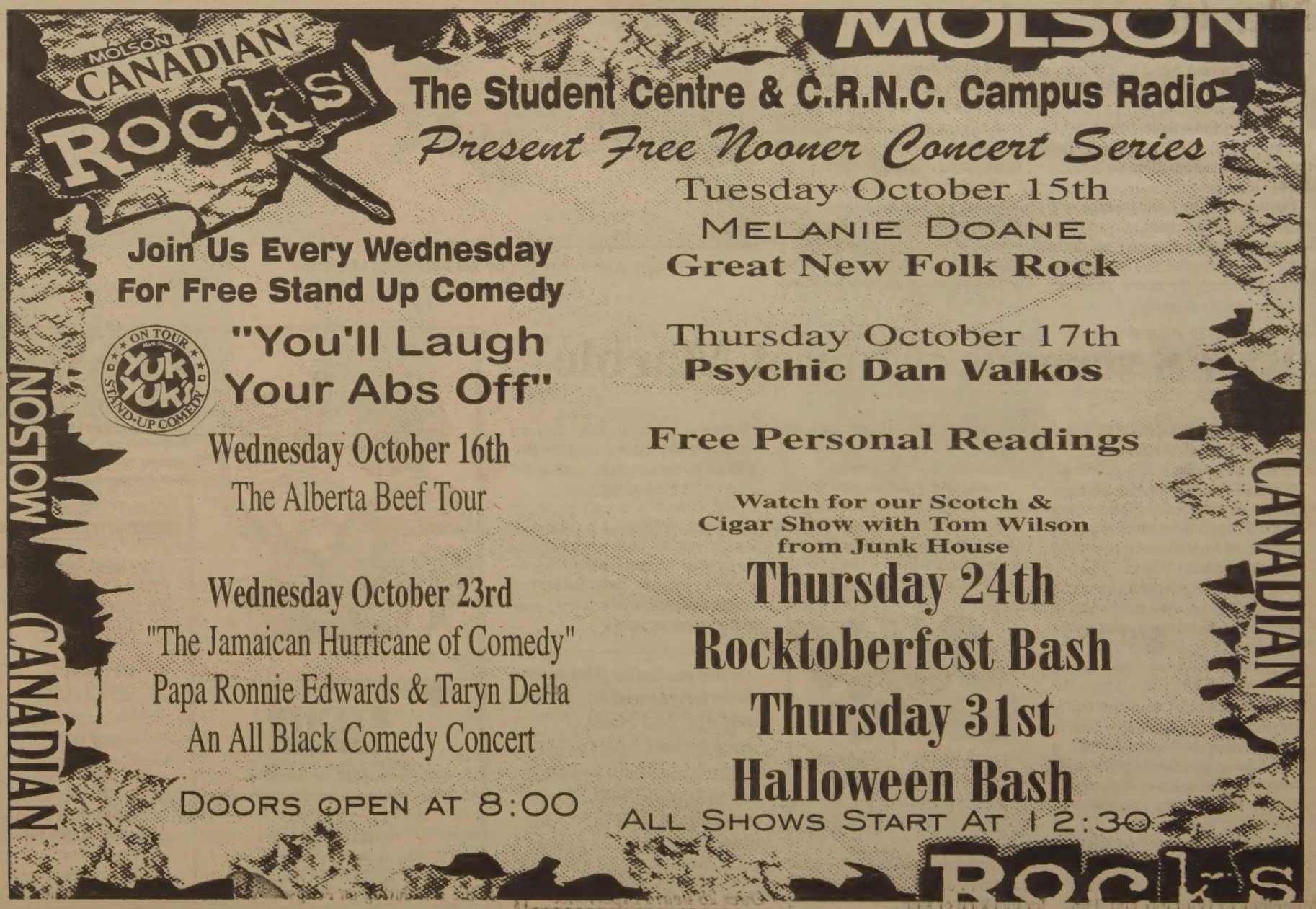
One condition he's noticed is the type of teachers employed by the college, he says.

"They're getting away from people who are experienced in teaching to people who are experienced in fields — which has its advantages and disadvantages. They may be excellent PR (public relations) people, but that doesn't mean they can teach. A lot (of teachers) are just reading out of textbooks.

"I find the college has a lot of good ideas, but they often get lost in the red tape. It's affordable education, it's not expensive education."

Chase says students need to recognize that receiving a college diploma isn't a stamped guarantee of getting a job after graduation.

"They have to realize that they're being equipped with the tools for life, it's basically up to everybody when they're done to decide what *they want to do with those tools.* Whether they want to make a great career or whether they want to just fart around."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Way Cool Tattoos is serious business

By KERI-LYNN SMITH
Staff Writer

Some people know the importance of a good point.

Charlie Duarte, the 38-year-old owner of Way Cool Tattoos in Niagara Falls, says a hollow-point needle and not an ear piercing gun should be used for body piercing.

He says an ear gun "forces skin apart" and leaves no room for jewelry. Piercings done with a hollow-point needle actually remove skin to make room for jewelry.

"The needles should be sterilized and individually packaged . . . they should be the same gauge (size) as the jewelry," he says.

For optimum safety, Duarte says forceps and a new needle should be used for each customer, with the used needle being placed in a visible hazardous waste receptacle. The piercer should wear disposable gloves, a fresh pair for each person.

Duarte says the jewelry for piercings is, in itself, important. For a new piercing, surgical stainless steel is favorable, as it's the least porous metal.

"Gold and silver are porous and let in bacteria," he says, which can lead to infections. He says ear studs aren't considered proper jewelry because "they don't leave room for cleaning."

Duarte says body piercing is a "big responsibility," as after-care is important and time-consuming.

He says if people aren't prepared to care for piercings, they shouldn't get them done.

Way Cool Tattoos has many customers who come to the shop after getting a poor piercing job somewhere else, he says.

'The needles should be sterilized and individually packaged'
-Charlie Duarte

As piercing isn't regulated by health boards, a sign on a window advertising piercing doesn't ensure the employees know what they're doing.

"Shop around. You get what you pay for," says Duarte. "For something that lasts your life, you want to make sure it's done right."

Way Cool Tattoos gives customers what Duarte calls a "care package," a bag including several sheets on after-care, healing instructions and other piercing information. Phone numbers are included in case customers have any questions.

He says anyone interested in getting pierced should look for a clean, organized shop with no dogs and no smoking. Employees should have friendly attitudes and "spend more time talking about piercing than actually piercing," says Duarte.

Healing times, depending on the location of the piercing, can range from about four weeks to a year. Infections can develop if improper jewelry is used or if the piercing is not cared for correctly.

He warns that removing jewelry from an infected site can trap bacteria inside once the site closes over.

If you think you have an infection, return to your piercer or see a doctor immediately. Infections can become serious quickly.

See a professional piercer to obtain correct after-care instructions.

Journalism-Print program student Keri-Lynn Smith gets the point at Way Cool Tattoos.
Photo by Amanda Mansfield

Local Band on the move

Marble Weed releases second CD

By KERI-LYNN SMITH
Staff Writer

Rest up now.

The CD, **anjabone**, by local band Marble Weed, will be available in record stores across Canada come about Oct. 22.

Scott Little, the drums and percussion behind the band, says *Rest up now* is his favorite song off the 9-song compilation. He describes the tune as "Latin" and "rhythmic" with a "cool groove."

He learned to play drums at first on his own, then at high school and finally studied privately for three years.

Little, 21-year-old Niagara Falls resident, says the CD will be distributed through free enterprises, a subsidiary of EMI Canada records. It is already available in local record stores as an independent release, but is being re-released with a new cover, touch-ups here and there and a record deal to boot.

He says the music is "rock with hints of pop, jazzy."

In 1994, Marble Weed released a tape, *Four Legged Head*, and have since matured as a band. The new CD sounds much more focused. "With the first tape were just kind of getting our feet wet," he says.

The 2 1/2-year-old band, consisting of Little, Steve Doucet (guitars), Jay Forhan (bass), Piero Montemurro (guitars) and Tim Shaughnessy (vocals), practices four or five times a week.

They've had gigs in various places within the Niagara Region including Front 54 in Thorold and The Club (recently closed) in St. Catharines. Marble Weed will be performing a CD-release show in Toronto for industry people and media in the near future, even though the first single might not come out until as late as January.

'With the first tape we were just getting our feet wet'

Before joining Marble Weed, Little toured for two years with a country band while taking architecture classes. After that he had an offer to go on the road and perform country music. He turned it down because it wasn't the type of music he wanted to release. In fact, he says, he hated it. In the end he "chose musical freedom over getting trapped in another country band."

Little says he's "way happier" doing his own thing. A video is in the works as well as "continued growth of the band," he says.

Little says the group works well together, and the work they put into their music is "totally a group effort."

He learned to play drums at first on his own, then at high school and finally studied privately for three years. Teaching has just recently been added to Little's resume, but he says his passion for music goes back to childhood.

"As long as I can remember I was hitting stuff. Pots and pans ..."

He says Marble Weed is not an angry band, but rather "down to earth. We're honest. There's no egos, no attitudes. There's no room for that kind of stuff."

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Last eclipse before millennium

By HYOJEONG KIM
and MELISSA LABBE
Staff Writers

The clouds stole the view of the total lunar eclipse for the entire province on Thursday night, Sept. 26.

Unfortunately, it was the last chance to see a total lunar eclipse from anywhere in Canada until the year 2000.

If it hadn't been covered by the clouds, this eclipse would have been seen with Saturn appearing as a bright star underneath the moon.

Lunar eclipses occur when a full moon enters the earth's shadow.

When it passes exactly through the centre of the earth's shadow, a total eclipse takes place. If the moon doesn't pass completely into the earth's shadow but only touches it, the result is a partial eclipse.

Just as the moon is in the earth's shadow during a lunar eclipse, lunar eclipses are in the shadow of the more popular solar eclipses. School children have the warning "Don't look at the sun during an eclipse" burned into their sub-conscious by teachers and parents. Lunar eclipses can be watched safely with the naked eye.

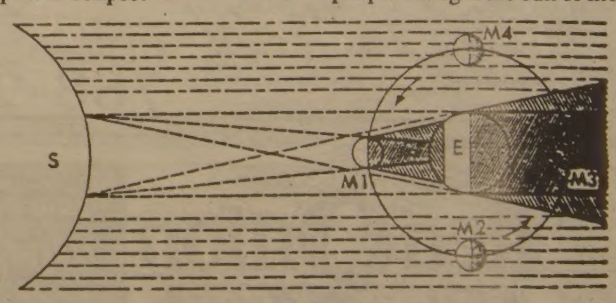
Often, lunar eclipses slip by during the wee hours of the morning, mostly unnoticed by the general public.

Lunar eclipses can be watched safely with the naked eye.

The natural magic of both solar and lunar eclipses has been recorded from the earliest times when people looked upon them with fear and superstition, but with great interest.

In old mythologies, it is said people thought the sun or moon was swallowed by a dragon during an eclipse.

Science has dispelled the myth about dragons and we now know what causes the eclipses. However, they are hard to see when there are clouds.



Eclipse
S, Sun; E, Earth; M1, Eclipse of the sun;
M3, Eclipse of the moon; M2, M4, Intermediate phases

Food for Thought

By CHRISTINE TURMAINE
Staff Writer

Imagine...

What's more perfect than going to a cottage with a bunch of friends to drink and enjoy the indulgences that cottage life has to offer. You can hang by the fireplace, party on the deck or shoot some pool and partake in some intriguing conversation. When the night's over you can leave with no obligation to clean up.

Well students.....Welcome to **BIG BUCK'S MOUNTAIN LODGE** where they host, and you enjoy.

Located at 30 Ontario St., St. Catharines, **BIG BUCK'S** is an open party to everyone. No invitations needed and the party goes on seven days a week, 15 hours a day.

BIG BUCK'S is a laid-back Muskoka, resort-styled bar complete with genuine wood logs and deerheads.

You can always expect the unexpected at this multi-faceted entertainment emporium. They are famous for keeping profound secrets and not announcing upcoming bands or other featured entertainment.

BIG BUCK'S has a vast array of entertainment to please everyone. There's dancing, and lots of it. With the large diversity of music, one night you could be dancing the macarena, the next night line dancing. Believe it, the vast eclectic compilation of music ranges from Shania Twain to The Tragically Hip. It's your choice because the DJ really does take requests (What a concept.) If dancing is not your forte than you can always find something else to do at **BIG BUCK'S.** Perhaps there's a band or maybe there's a ventriloquist. You can either catch the latest acts or mingle and shoot some pool. There are also lots of video games for those who enjoy a little time out.

TEL: 905 685 7188
"NO SUCKS AT BUCKS"

Monday Night Football anyone? Why not join them on Monday nights to watch a little football on one of their eight televisions? Their large screen T.V. is a whopping 8 feet by 10 feet. For the sports lovers who like to drink, a pitcher is offered at only $9.00.

Tuesday nights are a special night for students, and can also be rewarding. The last Tuesday in October, **BIG BUCK'S** is giving away a ski trip to Vermont or, if you win, you can choose to have your 1996 tuition paid by **BIG BUCK** himself. Every Tuesday, students can fill out a ballot to enter the giveaway or you can look around campus for **BIG BUCK'S "DO NOT DISTURB"** signs, which feature an entry ballot. Tuesday nights also feature $2.25 pints.

BIG BUCK'S has taken over Friday and Saturday nights and has become St. Catharine's weekend party bar. A bar where you will **NEVER** see the same party twice. Perhaps the bar's success is because of their NEVER-A-COVER policy, or maybe it's due to the staff.

Their dynamic, outgoing staff ensures that there are **'NO EGOS AT BIG BUCK'S.'** From the moment you check in and until you check out, you can feel the **COME-AS-YOU-ARE** mentality. The staff is undeniably friendly and makes sure that your night out is nothing less than exciting. Bouncers have been eliminated and replaced with hospitable lumberjacks who are sure to delight even the most dispirited guests.

Maybe **BIG BUCK'S** success is because of their food price break. The menu offers hearty, satisfying meals at student-friendly prices. It has a great selection of food ranging from chili and pasta to soups and sandwiches. There is never a need for food specials because it is already so darn cheap.

Get ready for Halloween, because this holiday marks an extra special event for **BIG BUCK'S.** It will turn into a terrorizing oubliette that will make your blood run cold. All ogres and hobgoblins are invited to share a night of captivating magic. "The Dean of Magic" will perform a live interactive magic show on the main stage. There will also be celebrity imposters and a few other star studded surprises. So dress up in your most ingenious, creative costume or if you're already repulsive, come as you are because they will also have prizes for best costume.

BIG BUCK'S is open daily from 11:30 a.m to 1 a.m. But due to some intense partying, Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays have been extended until 2 a.m.

So come day or night, but remember..... **NO SUCKS AT BUCKS!**

Photo by: Christine Turmaine

On Toonie & 2 Bit Tuesdays! you could WIN
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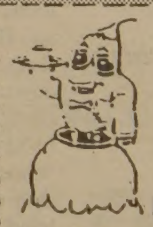
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GUESS
WHO'LL BE IN THIS SPOT
OCTOBER 25th?

Helping all those who are in need of a friend

By DEBRALEE VANGHENT
Staff Writer

Need a special friend?

The Educational Resources and Special Needs (ERSN) takes part in volunteering at the Best Buddies International.

"First-year students and some second-year students take part in volunteering for the Best Buddies International throughout their semester," says Pat Frank, co-ordinator of the ERSN program.

Roxanne Reid, 22, the student co-ordinator, assists with the Best Buddies International of Toronto.

This is Niagara College's first year in sponsoring a Best Buddies chapter. An organizational meeting was held on Oct. 7.

"I want to change people's misconceptions about the developmentally disabled and help friendships be made on a personal basis through university students to adults," Reid says.

Best Buddies International is an organization that links college and university students with developmentally disabled adults, allowing them to form friendships.

The Best Buddies International is one of 16 chapters opening in Canada.

"They are hoping for success and hoping more will open next year," she says.

"I think it's a great organization because it gives students the chance to make friendships with developmental disabilities which without this program would have not likely existed," Reid says.

"Best Buddies International is about creating friendships between people who might have never had the chance to meet. It's also about breaking down barriers between people and erasing misconceptions,"said Reid.

The founder of the Best Buddies International was Anthony Kennedy Shriver in the United States. The organization was founded in 1989 and has since grown into an international organization with 185 chapters in the U.S., Europe and Canada.

In Canada, the first Best Buddies chapter was founded by a group of students at York University in Toronto. It has existed since 1993 and is incorporated as a registered charity.

Best Buddies Canada is establishing chapters at universities and colleges across the country. It aims to provide a chance for college and university students and persons with developmental disabilities to become close friends.

"The Best Buddies program changes the lives of both the people involved. Relationships are formed by spending a great deal of time together," says a pamphlet from the organization.

"By forming new relationships with these people you find you have something in common and you also develop new things to enjoy," it adds. For example, participants could go to the movies, attend sporting events or participate in recreational activities.

Sometimes it's as simple as going for a coffee or just picking up the phone to say hello, the organization says. "It's really about finding a friend."

A Best Buddies friendship is just like any other friendships only more rewarding, says Reid.

Volunteering with Best Buddies allows you to make an important contribution to where you live and study, says the pamphlet.

"Being able to manage or participate in a Best Buddies college or university chapter will also help you to develop the skills and experience which are so vital in today's job market," says the pamphlet.

"The main part of the Best Buddies program is the friendship between the adults."

One-to-one outings occur two to three times a month, and maintain group activities take place four times a year. They give Student Buddies and Buddies a chance to take part in larger social groups, says the pamphlet.

More than 760,000 people in Canada have a developmental disability. A number of these individuals have a slower than average rate of learning.

They also might have difficulty managing the ordinary activities of daily living, understanding the behavior of others, and determining their own social responses.

With the Best Buddies program, the adults learn to interact with their peers by becoming "friends with them," says Reid, adding their friendships help build up their confidence.

Reid says this offers them a better chance of integrating into society.

The Best Buddies of Canada receives support from corporations, which recognize the importance that Best Buddies Canada can make. The two founding co-sponsors are Molson Breweries and the Royal Bank. Both have committed funds for the organization's initial growth and development.

Fund-raising efforts have continued throughout the year with other special events and other campaigns. Sales of Best Buddies T-shirts and other merchandise help the organization.

Best Buddies Canada's head office is at 55 St. Clair Ave. W., Suite 255, Toronto.

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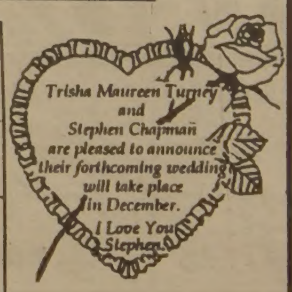

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REGULAR AND RESERVE

Street Kids International

Promotes independence and self respect

By RICHARD MANCUSO
Staff Writer

The first of this term's International Speakers' Series was held at the Welland campus in the Hamilton Room on Sept. 19.

The first of two this semester, it dealt with International Street Kids and the programs which try to help them find their way back into society.

Street kids are poor children in the wrong place. Street Kids International (SKI) is committed to creating and distributing ideas, tools, expertise and training materials among child-service agencies in the field.

The presentation began at 7 p.m. with an introduction by Niagara College President Dan Patterson who offered a few words about the International Education office. Jos Nolle, manager of the office, introduced the panelists for the evening.

They were Chris Lowry, creative director of Street Kids International, Debbie Shaerring, former street kid, and Gary Wilcox, youth services consultant for the Futures Division at the St. Catharines campus of Niagara College.

Lowry presented a slide show of some childeren in social programs around the world. He said Street Kids International is a worldwide organization based in Toronto with similar programs throughout the world.

Lowry began his presentation by saying SKI promotes independence and self respect. This is through some of the programs that SKI has helped to establish with youth agencies around the world, he said.

Caring for people with AIDS has become a central issue to SKI, said Lowry.

The programs include a bicycle delivery service and a pizza restaurant, operated by the Street Kids. The kids perform every position in the restaurant except cashier, by choice, and are fed by the restaurant as well. The kids can also receive technical training through certain programs.

SKI has found that using cartoons is "the best way" to reach the young people in the programs, especially those who have had problems with schooling. SKI has created two animated films for that purpose.

The films deal with issues such as AIDS, sexual health, and sexual and substance abuse. The films have been distributed in more than 100 countries and have been translated into 25 languages.

Caring for people with AIDS has become a central issue to SKI, said Lowry.

SKI has established workshops to teach counsellors how to communicate more effectively with the children in their programs and how to use the programs and teaching aids provided by SKI.

Debbie Shaerring, one of the panelists, was a Street Kid herself at the age of 14 in Nova Scotia. She eventually moved to Toronto to live with her brother, a janitor at Beat the Street, a literacy program.

Shaerring became involved in the program while staying with her brother, but found herself back on the street after he left the area.

Shaerring said she was into drugs — mostly hash and weed — but she never got into prostitution, which happens to a lot of girls on the streets.

Shaerring said she got herself off the street when she found out she was pregnant. She is working as a supervisor at a sandwich shop on Young Street in Toronto. The shop is operated by an organization similar to SKI.

This term's second Speakers' Series will be held Nov. 21 and will deal with doing business in Latin America.

Lack of emergency parking

By JAN ALLERS
Staff Writer

Break a leg and try to find emergency parking at Niagara College — you can't because it does not exist.

There are provisions in place should a student require immediate emergency parking in order to continue attending classes.

"This is a legitimate problem," said Chris Philbrick, a registered nurse employed by the college.

The Niagara College campus provides restricted parking facilities for the disabled only.

There are also spaces allocated for emergency vehicles such as ambulance and fire.

The existing disability parking facilities on the campus are governed by the Ontario Ministry of Transportation.

Any students requiring this type of parking must make a formal application for a permanent or temporary permit through the ministry's offices. That means any student who suddenly finds themselves on crutches or just out of surgery must make a proper application to specified offices.

It is not the responsibility of the college to handle these matters.

Students who have had surgery or sicknesses involving limited walking could qualify for some type of pass from the Health Services office.

"If we had a set criteria in place, then it could prepare us for accepting or denying those who could legitimately need the service," said Philbrick.

The emergency pass could be issued on the first day back to class or arrangements could be made before the student requires the assistance.

'I can't see this added service causing any significant increases in our workload,' said Philbrick.

This pass would only be used for the campus grounds.

The student would present the regular parking pass, along with a physician's order. A colored tab could then be attached to their regular pass.

"I can't see this added service causing any significant increase in our workload," added Philbrick.

The expiry date would permit monitoring for any abuse of the system.

The security officers are checking for the regular passes daily, this system would not add to their responsibilities.

The additional parking spaces could be painted with notices for emergency student vehicles access.

This added service would allow students to return to classes much faster and the college would have fewer absentees.

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THE LIGHTER SIDE

The nightmare hayride is back

By COLIN HUNEAULT
Staff Writer

The Nightmare hayride is back at the Stevensville Garden Centre in Fort Erie.

This full theatrical production has begun its second season of fun and horror for everyone to enjoy.

After months of preparation, the 100 acres of farmland has been transformed into an outdoor horror set that would make most directors envious.

The Tykolos family owns and operates the production, which is becoming a popular regional event.

Marianne Tykolos, director of production, said a lot of time and effort has been placed on the show.

The hayride route is more than three miles of winding road that passes through cornfields, wooded areas, animal paddocks and 16 pods (stations) created especially for the ride.

Each pod has some interesting characters and props that serve to enhance the ride.

One particular station has a scaled-down version of Stonehenge made from straw.

Marianne said the "Strawhenge" took more than 400 man-hours and $1,000 of hay to construct.

Additionally more than 30 actors have been preparing for the event since August.

The event begins in Platform 13 where the audience is shown a video prepared by Pacific Production.

Titled The Unexplained Mysteries, the presentation serves to introduce the audience to a grizzly tale.

After a seance, the narrator directs visitors into the wagon.

"No harm will come to you if you keep your limbs inside the wagon," said Albert, the narrator.

Then, your nightmare begins.

The hayride is about one hour long and ends at the Boo-tique.

Refreshments and merchandise are sold in the store, while beer is served in a nearby tent.

A bonfire next to Platform 13 is most inviting.

> ***'The hayride is a horror seasoned with humor.'***
>
> *- Joseph Allan*

"There is very little to do on October nights," said Marianne.

"Many businesses and social groups have been booking their Halloween parties here."

Marianne said although there have been a few patrons who were too scared to finish the tour, most audience members respond well to the production.

"The hayride is a horror seasoned with humor," said patron Joseph Allan. "I recommend it to anyone."

Marianne said "wonderful things" are planned for the garden centre. A "unique sculpture park" is being erected on the 100 acre-farm, while new exotic animals are scheduled for the paddock in the summer of 1997.

The hayride is open to the public during October from Thursday to Saturday after 6:30 p.m.

WORDPUZZLE — MUSICALLY INCLINED

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METALLICA
MOTLEY CRUE
NIRVANA
PEARL JAM
PANTERA
SKID ROW
SOUNDGARDEN
TRAGICALLY HIP
VAN HALEN
ZZ TOP

Your Horoscope

By KERI-LYNN SMITH
and PENNI TONEGUZZO
Staff Writers

Here are your horoscopes for the weekend of Oct. 12.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

Be careful how you spend money. It's running out. Take up a new hobby. Lucky numbers: 18, 49.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

You are beautiful but don't let your head grow. Treat yourself to a new outfit. Lucky numbers: 13, 68.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

Keep your self-esteem high. Take care of **YOU** first. Be responsible in your ways. Lucky numbers: 5, 70.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

Watch your temper. Release your anger slowly and positively. Don't hold it in and then explode. Lucky numbers: 7, 44.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Let old grudges go and forgive. You may find that your stress level won't be so high. Lucky numbers: 26, 69.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)

Help another person and the gratitude will be overwhelming. Treat yourself to a night on the town. Lucky numbers: 15, 50.

Aries (March 21-April 19)

Your high energy might be better spent on one project. You sometimes take on too much at once. Lucky numbers: 2, 73.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)

You think very logically, but sometimes your heart will tell you what's best. Don't be afraid to listen. Lucky numbers: 19, 24.

Gemini (May 21-June 21)

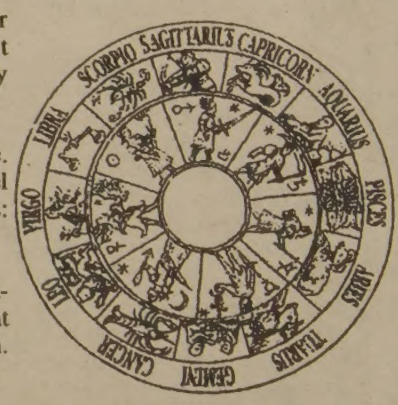
Only you can get yourself focused. Procrastinating just makes projects harder. Lucky numbers: 17, 83.

Cancer (June 22-July 22)

Are you feeling taken advantage of by a relative? Remember, you are in control of your life, and no one can **MAKE** you feel anything. Lucky numbers: 1, 36.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)

Someone you're flirting with may take you more seriously than you think, or want. Know where to draw the line. Lucky numbers: 12, 14.

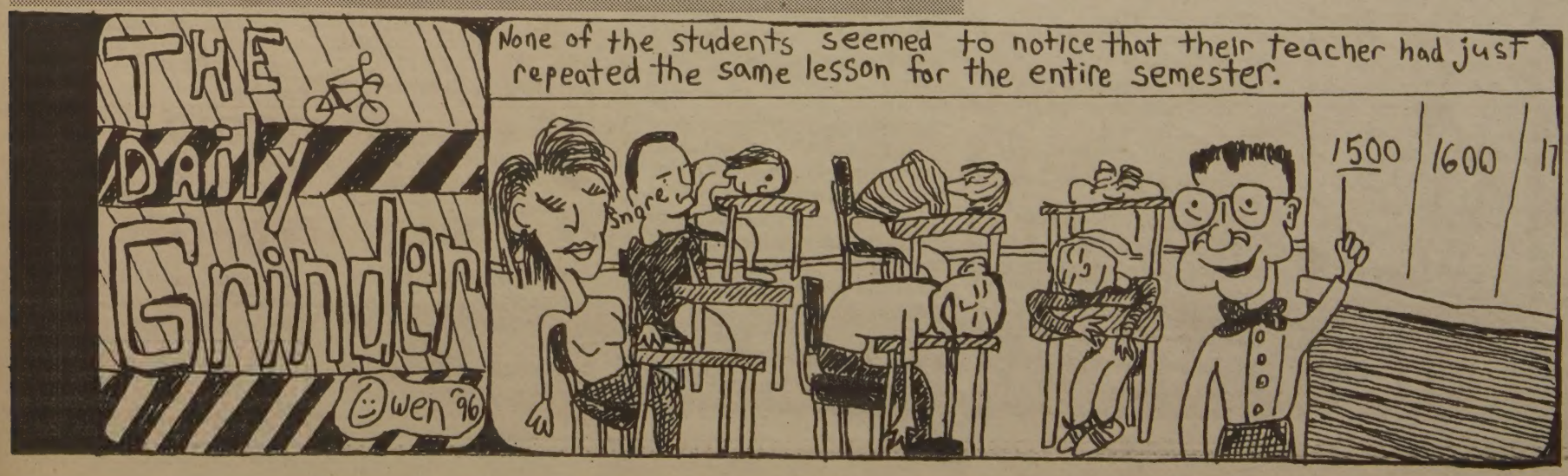


Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

You're wondering why a friend hasn't called ... your pal is wondering the same about you. Why not be the one to pick up the phone? Lucky numbers: 8, 62.

For entertainment purposes only.

NEXT ISSUE - OCT. 25th


THE Daily Grinder
None of the students seemed to notice that their teacher had just repeated the same lesson for the entire semester.
Snore
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1600
17
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POLITICS

Conservatives focus on fiscal responsibility

By BRAD MOSCATO
Staff Writer

The revolution Mike Harris and the Progressive Conservatives have brought to the province shows no sign of letting up as they begin their second year in power.

For many staunch Conservatives, the policies the Tories have brought to Ontario politics are truly extraordinary.

After one year in office, they continue to attack more issues than most governments do during one term.

Harris' regime has swiftly slashed welfare benefits, cut taxes, ventured into property-tax assessment and eliminated legislation such as employment equity.

"We are not close to getting the economy back to where it should be, so we have to deal with day-to-day issues such as reducing government, creating jobs and balancing the books," said St. Catharines-Brock Tory MPP Tom Froese.

This government was straightforward in our Common Sense issues dealing with fiscal responsibility, added Froese.

During the election campaign, the Conservatives promised to eliminate the provincial debt in five-fiscal years, and for the new session they have already announced plans to continue with their measures.

Some of the key projects the government will be working on are proposals such as open government, including referendum legislation and further publication of public-sector salaries.

The Tories will also emphasize a more productive and efficient government, which considers the privatization of some activities. School lunch programs for children and reform to the day-care system are on the agenda. A revised health care system using resources created by the restructuring of the hospital sector and a plan to make correctional institutions tougher are also proposed.

"Part of our goal was to restore some faith in politicians, and we feel that we are leading by example," said Niagara Falls Tory MPP Bart Maves.

With the Tories still holding more than half the support among voters, as indicated by recent polls, addressing issues on strictly an economic level could be the key to their success.

"Mr. Harris knows he will be able to satisfy many of those who voted for him. The question will be if he is seen as going too far," said Mike Collins, a Niagara College teacher and a member of the Liberal party.

"I don't happen to agree that the income tax-cut was wise at this time with Ontario battling an $8 billion a year deficit."

Collins said he hopes Ontarians will see an end to the cuts by the Harris government since their measures have turned many people's lives into chaos.

Many social activists who back the Tories are upset the government isn't pursuing social activities; however, delving into such issues might not make for an election victory.

The government is in no hurry to jump into controversial social issues such as gun control and government-assited private schooling, as they continue to wage battles with doctors, nurses and teachers over cuts to education and health care.

"Neither Mike Harris nor his backbenchers have any interest in the quality of life issues," said Welland-Thorold New Democrat MPP Peter Kormos. "They see themselves as economic consultants."

"At the end of the day they are hurting the working class of Ontario, students, seniors and communities."

Gun control, abortion, government-assisted private schools and gay rights have not been extensively debated by the party.

Social issues were not the focus of the Tory campaign, Maves said, although he added welfare reform and recommendations to the Family Support Plan "fall into the same lines of social issues."

"Unlike governments of the past, we are sticking to the program we ran on."

Tory backbenchers continue to stress the importance of having the economy dealt with first and foremost.

"The cuts by this government are a sheer destruction to the quality of life for the vast majority of people in this province," said Dr. Douglas B. Rogers, a teacher at Niagara College and member of the Golden Horseshoe Social Action Committee.

Rogers said the Conservatives continue with their intention to reduce the salaries of the poorest paid in Ontario.

"This government is much involved in a class war."

Changes to student loan system

By BRAD MOSCATO
Staff Writer

Ontario recently decided its financial health was poor enough to consider a new student loan system.

The question is whether Ontario will adopt a plan to give banks the collection process, similar to that of the federal government and other provinces across the country, or create a system of its own.

"The federal plan certainly makes sense for Ontario to adopt," said Mel Groom, Royal Bank manager at the Welland branch.

"The purpose of the plan is to help the administration aspect of it. Dealing with a local bank will give students more access for negotiations."

Economic shrewdness was first felt in the provinces, but the federal government soon followed by announcing a deal to let banks collect the more than $1 billion handed out each year under the Canada Student Loans program.

Whatever the Tory government decides, the loan system remains linked to other financial hardships shared by students and taxpayers in backing postsecondary education.

"The default in the past is certainly a drain on current students," said Al Vaughan, registrar at Niagara College.

"The federal plan is premature right now, but anything that would decrease the loan debt will help students," he said, adding that banks would be more rigorous in the collection process of past student loans.

In 1993-1994, more than 340,000 postsecondary students qualified for a total of $1.1 billion in Canada Student Loans. Almost 18 per cent of 1994 graduates in Ontario defaulted on their loans.

Because of the high numbers, the province has suggested alternative measures to trim their losses.

One possibility the government is looking at is the income-contingent loan-repayment program. Previous to winning the election, the Tories announced their intention to incorporate the plan into the loan system. The income-contingent plan would tie a student's repayment to his or her annual income.

This means a person making $20,000 annually will not have to make monthly payments comparable to a person who makes $50,000 annually, said Vaughan.

OSAP
ONTARIO STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Another option is to adopt the system that has been implemented across the country. The program is a risk-free agreement that gives banks the responsibility for collecting the repayment money .

"The system is obviously more beneficial for banks than for students," said Canadian Federation of Students President Mario Bellabarba.

Bellabarba said both the federal and provincial governments have too much financial burden to run a student loan system entirely by themselves.

"I don't think the government does all that good a job in finding students in default and they want to give it to someone that can do the job properly."

While governments worry about escalating costs of unpaid student loans, students battle with increasing tuition costs, heavier debt loads and higher unemployment rates.

"By passing student loan repayment supervision to the banks, it will be another way the province is trying to duck their accountability for the people of Ontario," said Ontario Community College Student Parliamentary Association (OCCSPA) President Gary Rochon.

Rochon said that students can expect tuition to increase again and debt loads to become increasingly heavier because of continuous attacks on education.

"We need a system that will not break students' backs," he said, adding the education system is taking a step back 100 years.

Rochon warns that the handing over of collection responsibility to banks will eventually lead to giving the banks loan-granting control.

The number of students who defaulted on Canada Student Loans of more than $10,000 tripled between 1985 and 1992, and about half of postsecondary students leave school still owing money for their training.

Trisha Turney, a Niagara College student in the Office Administration Executive Co-op program, said she agrees with the banks takeover of the collection responsibility.

"It's better if local banks appoint loans because they know your personal situation and a loan will be more accessible."

However, Turney said she becomes nervous when thinking about "how much banks can hound you for debts compared to the government."

Tories drop axe again

By BRAD MOSCATO
Staff Writer

The Ontario government is keeping another one of its campaign promises by offering a plan to reduce the number of MPPs at Queen's Park to 103 from 130.

The new provincial ridings would follow the current boundaries of the federal government.

Mike Collins, a Niagara College teacher and a member of the Liberal Party, said he agrees with the Tory plan to reduce the number of MPPs, although he disagrees with many other policies the Conservatives have implemented.

The act, being dubbed the Fewer Politicians Act, is expected to save taxpayers about $11 million annually.

If 103 MPs can serve Ontario then 103 MPPS should be able to do the same, said Niagara Falls Tory MPP Bart Maves, adding the downsizing in government will save millions of dollars in office budgets and salaries of politicians and staff.

"We will be providing the same services or better services for less."

However, opposition MPPs criticize the proposal, arguing there will be marginally less representation in Northern Ontario, Metro Toronto and the Niagara Region.

"This government has an obsession with centralization. They are putting communities such as the Niagara Region under attack," said Welland-Thorold New Democrat MPP Peter Kormos.

Kormos said the Niagara Region will lose 1 1/2 MPPs under the government's downsizing plan.

"This means there will be fewer representatives at Queen's Park and MPPs will all but be ignored."

'Tory MPPs are extremely naive...'

The Tories are continuing to make sweeping changes to the way government has been operating for years in Ontario.

"We were upfront on this issue when we campaigned," said St. Catharines-Brock Tory MPP Tom Froese. "The cabinet is smaller than it has been in 70 years."

Currently, the boundaries consist of six ridings, including St. Catharines-Brock, St. Catharines, Lincoln, Niagara Falls, Welland-Thorold and Niagara South.

However, legislative proposals would see that number drop to four. The new provincial ridings would be St. Catharines, Niagara Centre, Niagara Falls and Erie-Lincoln.

"Tory MPPs are extremely naive when they say they are simply adopting the federal plan," said Kormos, adding MPPs have more of a role in communities than MPs do.

"MPPs have a specific and direct contact with families and neighborhoods in their communities," the Welland-Thorold MPP said.